“I am humbled by his (Zanni’s) generosity and forethought. His commitment to his alma mater is a testament to the greatness of our School and serves as an inspiration to us all.”

—Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter

DEAN
Jeffrey W. Hutter

EDITOR
Mary Becotte

Director of Communications & External Relations

CONTRIBUTORS
Julia Bookout
Assistant Director of Publications & Media Relations

Tim Brennan
Associate Director of Marketing & Communications

Leslie Caiola
Alumni Coordinator

Heather Goss
Administrative Assistant, Research

Kevin Holland
Assistant Dean for Development & Alumni Relations

Stacey McNamee
Director of Alumni Relations & Alumni Giving

Molly Washburn
Communications Manager

DESIGN
Martha Abdella
Alexandra Singer

PHOTOGRAPHY
BU Photography, Getty Images, iStockphoto, Molly Washburn

Send correspondence and address changes to: Editor, Impressions, Communications Office, Boston University, Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine, 72 E. Concord Street, B-303C, Boston, MA 02118

PHONE 617-638-5147
FAX 617-638-4895
EMAIL becottem@bu.edu

Boston University’s policies provide for equal opportunity and affirmative action in employment and admission to all programs of the University.

0115

Please recycle.
Dear Alumni and Friends:

As many of you have heard me say, it is my great honor and privilege to serve as Dean of the Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM).

As you know, the University is in an historic and ambitious campaign to raise $1 billion dollars. The cornerstone of this campaign is “Choose to be Great,” and I know that this theme resonates with every member of our School community. I see faculty, staff, students and residents choosing to be great in the classroom, pre-clinical Simulation Learning Center, the Patient Treatment Centers, Research Laboratories and in the Community on a daily basis. I also see our alumni choosing to be great in their practices, in organized dentistry, in research, in their community, and in their philanthropy.

Your fellow alumni and colleague, the late Dr. Oreste Zanni “chose to be great” throughout his life. He rose from humble beginnings to build an extraordinarily successful periodontal practice, while also giving back to the profession by teaching at GSDM. As I announced at our 2015 GSDM Commencement Convocation on May 15, his enormously generous bequest of $3 million dollars to GSDM will endow a scholarship for periodontology residents in perpetuity and fund the construction of a Post-doctoral Patient Treatment Center in Periodontics in his name in our new GSDM facility. As I know you are, I am truly humbled by his generosity and forethought, as his commitment to his alma mater is a testament to the greatness of our School and serves as an inspiration to us all.

The One Billion Dollar Campaign, the first of its kind for Boston University, marks a significant moment in the history of our University and our School. What also makes this Campaign different than others is that the money we are able to raise will remain with the Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine. The money we raise will be ours to use and will go to the funding of our new facility, along with the establishment of endowed Professorships and Scholarships.

As exemplified by many of our alumni and most recently by Dr. Zanni, I would encourage all of you to consider including GSDM in your long-term financial and estate plans. It is a wonderful way to ensure our legacy of excellence continues into the future.

Our vision for the Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine continues to be that we become the premier academic dental institution promoting excellence in dental education, research, oral healthcare, and community service to improve the overall health of the global population.

Having just completed its first year anniversary on July 7, 2015, we are already finding that the Group Practice Model (Impressions Winter 2015 pg. 24) is making a significant difference in the clinical experiences our students are encountering and in the comprehensive care they are providing their patients. Each of our Group Practices (GP) is comprised of students from each of the four-year DMD and two-year Advanced Standing DMD classes, and soon-to-be residents from each of the Advanced Specialty Education Programs. Each GP is overseen by two GP Leaders and staffed by General Supervising and Specialty Faculty, along with the staff required to manage patient appointments, finances, dental assistance, specialty referrals, and other needs of the students and patients.

Last fall we became the first dental school to implement and incorporate seamless digital dentistry into the clinical education we provide our students/residents and the oral healthcare provided our patients (Impressions Winter 2015 pg. 44-51). Through our collaboration with Sirona Dental Systems, GSDM has now acquired the CAD/CAM acquisition units, milling machines and 3D Imaging units with Facial Scanning needed to allow all of our students/residents the opportunity to experience and provide seamless digital dentistry for their patients. Just last year, as respective DMD II and AS I students, the four-year DMD Class of 2017 and two-year Advanced Standing Class of 2016 were the first students to experience the use of the CAD/CAM acquisition units and Milling machines in the Simulation Learning Center as they participated in Dr. Louis Brown’s Pre-clinical Fixed Prosthodontic course. In addition, they were the first students to use the PrepCheck Software in evaluating their crown preparations to a standard preparation as defined by Dr. Brown and his faculty both during the SLC sessions themselves and on their own time. These same students are now seeing patients in the Pre-doctoral Patient Treatment Centers fully prepared to work within their respective Group Practices in providing Computer-assisted Designed and Computer-assisted Manufactured (CAD/CAM) restorations for their patients.

I thank you for all of your continued support and encourage you to consider a gift to GSDM so that we can continue to innovate and lead the charge in dental education and comprehensive patient care, and in so doing, continue to increase the value of the education and patient care provided at the Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey W. Hutter, DMD, MEd
Dean and Spencer N. Frankl Professor in Dental Medicine
BOSTON UNIVERSITY IADR/AADR RECEPTION
AN EXCEPTIONAL EVENING

Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter and Associate Dean for Research Dr. Maria Kukuruzinska hosted a reception for friends of Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM) on the evening of Thursday, March 12, 2015, during the annual meeting of the International Association for Dental Research (IADR) and the American Association for Dental Research (AADR). This year’s reception took place in the Sheraton Boston Hotel in the Commonwealth Ballroom and had over 200 guests in attendance, including GSDM faculty, staff, residents, students, alumni, and visitors from several international dental schools.

The evening reception followed a busy day of IADR/AADR General Session activities, including oral presentations, symposia, and poster sessions at the adjacent Hynes Convention Center. Dean Hutter and Mrs. Kathleen Hutter personally welcomed each guest to the event by greeting them at the door.

The reception celebrating the accomplishments of GSDM’s research programs and participants served as a lively occasion for socializing and networking.

“I was very happy to host such a well-attended reception,” said Dean Hutter. “It was a pleasure to welcome researchers from around the world to our home town for this important meeting and to provide a forum to showcase and celebrate the outstanding research programs at our School.”

DESTINEE INGRAO WINS SCHOLARSHIP WITH INTEGRITY, IMAGINATION, AND INITIATIVE

The Foundation of the Pierre Fauchard Academy honored our student Destinee R. Ingrao DMD 15 with the 2014 Foundation Dental Student Scholarship Award. Destinee received $1,000 to go directly toward tuition and a certificate, which Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter, Assistant Dean of Students Dr. Joseph Calabrese, and Associate Dean for Academic Affairs Dr. Cataldo Leone presented to her in a ceremony at the School.

Dr. Calabrese said, “The recognition of the Pierre Fauchard Scholarship is a result of Destinee’s hard work and passion in the classroom and the patient
BU will now include new bequest intentions in its Campaign total. This is a new policy for BU based on and consistent with those found at peer institutions. The move marks the importance of estate gifts to the University and provides another opportunity for donors to build a legacy at BU through planned giving.

GSDM recently received a bequest of more than $3 MILLION from the estate of the late, beloved alum and faculty member, Dr. Oreste Zanni.

University wide, Boston University alumni and friends have committed close to $17 MILLION in bequest intentions during the campaign from 56 DONORS.

The Claflin Society recognizes alumni and friends who have included Boston University in their estate plans. There are currently 877 Claflin Society members.

Contact Kevin Holland at kevinh@bu.edu or 617-638-4884 to learn more.

By the Numbers

In presenting the Scholarship to Ingrao, Dean Hutter shared the following statement from a letter from the Foundation that accompanied the Award, “This scholarship award has a proud tradition for its presentation to dental students who have demonstrated the greatest potential for development into outstanding leaders in the dental profession. It is quite an honor that you were selected by your school’s faculty to receive this award as it demonstrates that they recognize your potential for developing into an outstanding leader in the profession because of your participation in the University, dental school, and community. As a recipient of this award, it shows that you have demonstrated qualities of integrity, imagination, and initiative.”

Ingrao said, “I am both honored and humbled to receive this prestigious award. I am also grateful to the faculty and administration at GSDM for recognizing my passion for clinical dentistry and my strong desire to serve my community. I have worked extremely hard these past few years in dental school, and this recognition by my faculty serves as a strong positive acknowledgement of my commitment.”

At GSDM, Ingrao is the Editor in Chief of the ASDA Newsbite and a member of several BU ASDA committees. Because she enjoys learning and teaching, she volunteers as a teaching assistant for pre-clinical endodontics and shadows oral pathology faculty with hopes of tutoring on the subject.

She added, “Dentistry has become a true love of mine, and I feel very fortunate to be learning about and doing what I love. I have a strong belief in the notion of constant, gradual improvement, and I look forward to helping advance the dental profession and better the lives of those I touch.”

“On behalf of the entire GSDM faculty, congratulations to Destinee on receiving this well-deserved 2014 Foundation Dental Student Scholarship Award,” said Dean Hutter. “I also wish to thank the Pierre Fauchard Academy for their continued work to provide scholarships for promising dental students.”

The Foundation is the philanthropic arm of the Pierre Fauchard Academy, providing financial support.
GSDM VOLUNTEERS ADD SMILES TO CHRISTMAS IN THE CITY

On December 21, 2014, members of the Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM) joined thousands of volunteers at the 22nd annual Christmas in the City (CITC). Held at the Boston Convention & Exhibition Center, this festive event benefited over 4,000 homeless children, parents and caregivers from Boston area homeless shelters. The holiday party featured a banquet, live entertainment, a “Winter Wonderland” with games, rides, a petting zoo, and other kid-friendly activities. In addition, Santa gave each child a personalized gift from his or her Christmas list.

This marks the third year that GSDM participated in CITC. Oral Health Promotion Director Kathy Lituri and the GSDM volunteers offered dental screenings and helped address oral issues pertaining to individual children. They also promoted oral health by providing age-appropriate, hands-on activities and distributed toothbrushes and other information on proper oral hygiene. Anthony Kofoworola-Kuti DMD 16 took photos throughout the event, capturing the volunteers in action as they interacted with hundreds of visitors.

“This event tugs on our heart strings more than any other event we participate in,” says Lituri. “It is really an honor to be a part of it, and every year we try to make our small part not only bigger, but also more meaningful for the attendees. All of the families that visited the GSDM dental station were so appreciative and grateful for what we had to offer.”

GSDM faculty volunteers were: Clinical Instructors in the Department of Health Policy & Health Services Research Drs. Lina Benslimane and Gladys Carrasco, Clinical Professor in the Department of Orthodontics & Dentofacial Orthopedics Dr. Kenneth Drizen, Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of General Dentistry Dr. Laura Kaufman, Clinical Assistant Professor and Practice Leader in the Department of General Dentistry Dr. Waleerat Kaweevisaltrakul, Oral Health Promotion Director Ms. Kathy Lituri, and Clinical Associate Professor in the Department of Global & Population Health Dr. Mohammad Mourad.


Other volunteers were Lee Costello (GSDM’s liaison to the event) and Mr. Martin Weeks.

GSDM ALPHA OMEGAS TEAM UP WITH TUFTS UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE FOR 9TH ANNUAL FENWAY TOOTH DAY

In the fall of 2014, For the ninth year in a row, the Alpha Omega chapters from GSDM and TUSDM provided free dental and oral cancer screenings to fans coming into Fenway Park. Fans also walked away with free toothbrushes, toothpaste and floss, as well as educational pamphlets on oral cancer.

“This event was a huge success,” said Group Practice Leader Dr. David Dano. “Alpha Omega students, faculty, and dentists from the Boston area demonstrated once again their motivation, commitment, and enthusiasm in giving back to the community and promoting oral health awareness.”

The event was founded and is organized and led by Tufts, but has had plenty of GSDM involvement. Volunteers from GSDM faculty included Group Practice Leaders Drs. David Dano and Ryota Kikuchi. Students Jessica Finkielsztein DMD 16 and Janna Login DMD 16 also volunteered.

GSDM plans to participate in future Fenway Tooth Days. “I strongly recommend GSDM students and faculty to join us in our future events,” Dano suggested.
In the summer of 2014, GSDM researchers Drs. Srinivas Ayilavarapu, Manish Bais, and Brenda Heaton were awarded $20,000 each in CTSI pilot funding. The pilot grant competition, led by the Boston University Clinical and Translational Science Institute (CTSI) and financially supported by the Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine, funds innovative translational research intended to obtain preliminary data to apply for federal funding. A number of outstanding proposals were submitted and were reviewed by a panel of faculty members. The researchers will use the $20,000 award to work on their pilot projects.

Dr. Srinivas Ayilavarapu, Assistant Professor in the Department of General Dentistry, received funding for his project, “B cells promote chronic periodontitis in type 2 diabetes.” This project is a collaborative effort with Dr. Barbara Nikolajczyk, Associate Professor of Microbiology at BU School of Medicine, to explore the activation of immune cells in obese diabetics with periodontal disease. The project involves the extraction of gingival tissue from enrolled research subjects, followed by the isolation of cells for analysis. The aim of this project is to identify the molecular mechanisms that can lead to periodontal disease and to identify potential therapeutic targets. Dr. Ayilavarapu believes that this grant will help to generate important preliminary data for larger federally-funded projects.

Dr. Manish Bais, Research Assistant Professor in the Department of Molecular & Cell Biology, received funding for his project, “Patient-derived tumors orthotopic oral cancer mouse model.” The goal of this study is to establish a novel orthotopic oral cancer nude mouse model using patient-derived tumor cells and to determine if these pre-clinical studies can provide insights about predictors of tumor growth and metastasis. This project is developed from Dr. Bais’ participation in GSDM’s Oral Cancer Research Initiative. Dr. Bais is very excited about the CTSI funding and the significant impact this project may have on our understanding of oral cancer etiology and progression.

“This study will establish a new oral cancer mouse model, determine personalized differences in oral cancers, and provide an innovative approach for future mechanistic and translational studies, which could repeat clinical oral cancer progression in mouse models,” said Dr. Bais about his project.

Dr. Brenda Heaton, Assistant Professor in the Department of Health Policy & Health Services Research, received funding for her project “Preparations for studies of oral health and illness in black women: validation of self-reported oral health measures in the Black Women’s Health Study.” This pilot grant supports a new collaboration between GSDM and the Slone Epidemiology Center at Boston University. The funds will be used to assess the feasibility of validating oral health measures in the subject population of the Black Women’s Health Study (BWHS) who reside within the greater Boston area. The BWHS is an ongoing longitudinal study of 59,000 U.S. black women since 1995. The project will administer a series of self-reported oral health measures to willing participants. Participants will then travel to the GSDM Center for Clinical Research where they will receive clinical oral exams. This new collaboration will help to facilitate the future study of oral health outcomes among a national population with demonstrated health disparities.

“I would like to extend my congratulations to the recipients of CTSI pilot funding,” said Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter. “The success of our faculty strongly reflects the Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine’s commitment to research excellence.” He added, “While only three projects could be selected, all submissions from GSDM were outstanding and compared favorably with other Schools on the Medical Campus.”
**GSVM HELPS SOMERVILLE CHILDREN START KINDERGARTEN WITH A HEALTHY SMILE**

Volunteers from Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSVM) offered support to approximately 400 families with children preparing for kindergarten at the Countdown to Kindergarten Somerville event at Boston Children’s Museum on May 16, 2014. This event is an off-shoot of Countdown to Kindergarten Boston, a nonprofit collaborative that engages families, educators, and community members to celebrate and provide support to children at the significant educational and developmental milestone of entering kindergarten.

Faculty sponsors Dr. Martin Ugarte-Chavez and Oral Health Promotion Director Kathy Lituri led the following team of student volunteers: Alexandra Fili (former DMD student), Jing Guo DMD 17, Hyunji Kim DMD 15, Lana Le DMD 16, Derek Leung DMD 15, Adam Robbins DMD 15, and Kali Stewart DMD 15.

The GSVM volunteers promoted oral health to the families and children with hands-on activities, oral health information relevant to the age group, and dental screenings to 25 children.

Lituri said to the volunteers, “It was so nice to see all of you totally engaged with the children and families.” She continued, “I am confident that you had a positive influence on all the people you encountered at this event.”

**Dr. Mohamed Ahmed Awarded 22K for Tissue Regeneration Research**

Mohamed Jamal Ahmed, ENDO 16, DScD 16, has been awarded a research grant from the American Association of Endodontists (AAE) Foundation for his proposal, “Directed Differentiation of Human Induced Pluripotent Stem Cells into Pulp Regenerating Progenitor.” Dr. Ahmed’s submission was awarded the highest amount of funding in the spring 2014 AAE annual session, an amount totaling $22,000.

The AAE Foundation’s mission is to “perpetuate excellence for the specialty of endodontics” through research and education. The AAE Foundation awards research funding to the most competitive and innovative grant proposals.

The aim of Dr. Ahmed’s investigation is to develop a novel strategy to help regenerate dental pulp tissue, which is a major research priority of the AAE. Dental pulp is the connective living tissue located inside teeth, and is susceptible to damage by endodontic disease, one of the most common dental diseases.

Pulp tissue is composed of different cell types of multiple embryonic germ layers origins. Therefore, in order to regenerate pulp cells, there is a need for stem or progenitor cell populations with a capacity to differentiate into cell types originating from these embryonic germ layers. Dr. Ahmed’s novel strategy to regenerate the pulp dentin complex involves using mesenchymal and endothelial progenitors derived from human induced pluripotent stem cells to aid in achieving predictable regeneration of pulp dentin complex.

Dr. Ahmed became involved in endodontic research while pursuing his Certificate of Advanced Graduate Study (CAGS) in endodontics and Master of Science Degree at the Boston University Institute for Dental Research and Education (BUIDRE) in Dubai. In 2011, he began his Doctor of Science in Dentistry degree (DScD) and Certificate of Advanced Graduate Study (CAGS) at the Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine.

Dr. Ahmed is currently working in Dr. Darrell Kotton’s lab in the Center for Regenerative Medicine (CReM) at the BU School of Medicine. The Kotton lab’s investigatory focus is on stem cell biology and gene therapy as it relates to lung injury and repair. It is here that Dr. Ahmed studied induced pluripotent stem cells and developmental biology.

Dr. Ahmed is thrilled about receiving the grant, describing it as one of the highlights of his career. He is also very optimistic about the significant impact that the results of this study could have on the future of regenerative endodontics.

“Congratulations to Dr. Ahmed on receiving an AAE Foundation research grant,” said Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter. “The quality of his research certainly aligns with the mission of the Foundation and will contribute to the future of the endodontic profession.”
GSDM Marks Undergraduate Students’ Participation in Research

On July 25, 2014, Research hosted a small celebration for high school and undergraduate students who participated in research projects at the Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM) this summer. Light refreshments were enjoyed, while students and their faculty mentors were given an opportunity to share their research and learning experiences with one another.

Attracting young students who are considering careers in dental research is a priority for the Research Office at GSDM. As a part of this initiative, the School has become actively involved in several programs that offer students an opportunity to be trained by GSDM faculty in a university setting. Students come to GSDM through a variety of channels and from diverse educational backgrounds. All share a keen interest in the field of scientific research.

Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter said, “Supporting undergraduate research at the Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine, by participating in programs such as UROP, RISE, and RSI, is important to our School’s mission of providing an outstanding service to the community and promoting lifelong learning.” He continued, “I commend the outstanding work of the student researchers and their respective mentors.”

Within the last year, GSDM has hosted 10 undergraduate students participating in research. Four of these students conducted their training during the 2014 summer term as part of Boston University’s Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (UROP). UROP is a university-wide program that is designed to help full-time BU undergrads become involved in research on campus. Each UROP student was paired with a GSDM faculty mentor and assigned a research project, which can be completed on either a volunteer basis or for academic credit. The UROP summer training session began in June and ran for a total of 10 weeks.

The participating students were: Marisa Borchardt, mentored by Dr. Raffi Miller, Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of General Dentistry; Selene Ayuso, mentored by Dr. Serge Dibart, Chair, Department of Periodontology; Suzanne Krishfield, mentored by Dr. Paula K. Friedman, Professor Emerita; and Taymiah Mahmood, mentored by Dr. Salomon Amar, Professor, Departments of Molecular & Cell Biology and Periodontology. The four UROP students presented their projects as poster presentations in October 2014 on the Charles River Campus.

The Research Internship in Science and Engineering (RISE) at Boston University is a mentorship program that places academically motivated high school seniors in laboratories across campus for a six-week internship. Since June, the School has hosted RISE student Alex Hong, who is mentored by Dr. Salomon Amar.

Over the summer, GSDM also participated in the Research Science Institute (RSI), a science and engineering program offered by the Center for Excellence in Education that selects promising high school students from across the country to participate in college-level research. This program is hosted by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, which is where the students live for six weeks while attending their research internships at various research institutions in the Boston area. RSI student Maxmilian Wei was mentored by GSDM Associate Dean for Research, Dr. Maria Kukuruzinska, and Research Technician, Trevor Packer, in the Department of Molecular & Cell Biology.

Dr. Kukuruzinska believes that having undergraduate and high school students more involved in research at the School is beneficial for both our School and the community. She says, “Encouraging student involvement in research increases our program’s visibility, while also helping to prepare scientifically driven students for careers in research. I would strongly encourage GSDM faculty to continue to participate in these very rewarding mentoring programs.”

If you are interested in learning more about GSDM’s participation in undergraduate or high school student research placement programs, please contact Afaf Hourani at gsdmr@bu.edu.
June 2014, was a fruitful month for the Trackman laboratory, a group of investigators from all career stages under the guidance of Professor and Director of Graduate Programs in the Department of Molecular & Cell Biology, Dr. Philip C. Trackman. The researchers continue to be a source of innovative research within the GSDM community, having last month received an R21 grant and published two papers on lysyl oxidase.

The National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR) R21 grant, “Cellular or Extracellular Targeting of Lysyl Oxidase Propeptide for Oral Cancer,” is a two-year grant with anticipated funding of approximately $450,000. The aim of the project will be to determine whether the most important molecular targets of the lysyl oxidase propeptide, in its action to inhibit cancer cell growth, occur primarily inside or on the surface of cancer cells. The findings will further inform strategies to develop this protein or a derivative as a potential oral cancer therapeutic.

“This is an exciting accomplishment for the Trackman lab and also a significant development for the Oral Cancer Research Initiative (OCRI),” said Associate Dean for Research Maria Kukuruzinska. OCRI is a multidisciplinary collaboration to fight oral cancer, of which Dr. Trackman is a member.

The Trackman lab’s first publication in June explores the molecular mechanisms of the lysyl oxidase protein and its potential therapeutic effects. “Effects of Tumor Suppressor Lysyl Oxidase Propeptide on Prostate Cancer Xenograft Growth and Its Direct Interactions with DNA Repair Pathways” was published online on June 2, 2014, in Oncogene.

The paper identifies a new mechanism of action of the lysyl oxidase propeptide in which it sensitizes cancer cells to ionizing radiation by direct interaction with nuclear proteins that mediate DNA repair. This finding has therapeutic implications in that this non-toxic, naturally occurring protein has the potential to replace more toxic chemotherapeutics that are now used in combination with radiation therapy in oncology. This work was carried out primarily by Research Assistant Professor Dr. Manish Bais with assistance from Gokhan Baris Ozdener, a D.Sc. student, both working in Dr. Trackman’s laboratory.

The Trackman lab’s most recent article was published on June 27, 2014, in PLoS One. “A Novel Function for Lysyl Oxidase in Pluripotent Mesenchymal Cell Proliferation and Relevance to Inflammation-Associated Osteopenia” identifies a new function for the lysyl oxidase enzyme: it is shown to be required for proliferation of pluripotent non-differentiated cells. The known function for lysyl oxidase is to participate in collagen and elastin biosynthesis by catalyzing extracellular reactions required for cross-linking. The new study shows that lysyl oxidase has a role much earlier in bone formation and is needed for production of an adequate number of bone-forming cells.

The study also shows that factors produced in inflammation and diabetes down-regulate lysyl oxidase in the pluripotent cells, potentially contributing to inflammatory conditions such as diabetic osteopenia. The work was performed primarily by Dr. Roozbeh Khosravi, a former Ph.D. student in Dr. Trackman’s laboratory who is now at the University of Washington, Seattle, pursuing post-doctoral training in orthodontics and research. Dr. Katharine Sodek, a post-doctoral researcher, was a major contributor. Other contributors were Dr. Wan-Peng Xu; MSD/CAGS student Dr. Manish Bais; D.Sc.,
WHY ART IS IMPORTANT TO DENTISTS: DR. NEAL FLEISHER EXPLAINS

On Tuesday, June 10, 2014, Dr. Neal Fleisher, Clinical Associate Professor in the Department of General Dentistry and Director of Pre-doctoral Periodontology, gave a talk at the launch of The Arts Factor 2014 Report by ArtsBoston, a non-profit that champions art and culture in the Boston region. The Arts Factor 2014 Report features new research on the ways that the Boston area’s nonprofit arts and cultural sector transforms lives, builds stronger communities, and strengthens our local economy.

And what insight would an oral health care educator have to offer on the importance of the arts in and around Boston? Plenty, it turns out.

Dr. Fleisher, along with Drs. Carl McManama and Ana Zea, are responsible for initiating a program at Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM) that teaches dental students art appreciation skills as a means to improve patient care. As part of their required training, each first year DMD student visits the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, where they examine and discuss works of art using a learning system called Visual Thinking Strategies (VTS). Through VTS, students cultivate a willingness and ability to see their own ideas, while respecting and learning from the perspectives of their peers.

In his Arts Factor talk, Dr. Fleisher explained the importance of the VTS technique. “The value isn’t just in looking at things in a new and more detailed way, it’s also in overcoming our innate fear of talking about our findings when we don’t agree with others, in thinking we might be wrong about it.” He continued, “Students don’t like to get the wrong answers. And in the art we view, there are no right or wrong answers.”

Dr. Fleisher described to the audience why looking at art is such a great benefit to dental students. He explained that, when dental students begin their training, they are already bright individuals who are excellent at memorizing facts and acing multiple choice question exams. “But,” he said, “fewer of them are naturally gifted at looking at a patient or at a set of X-rays and figuring out what they are telling us about a patient—which is, of course, the critical component in the practice of medicine and dentistry.

“To properly diagnose our patients, dentists need to be able to explore all possible sources of the problem, to critically analyze all the symptoms and findings,” said Dr. Fleisher. “In many cases, we’ll involve colleagues in the process, we’ll communicate with each other, making critical observations and discussing them in a detailed and succinct manner. It’s not always easy to teach these skills in a traditional classroom and it seems that utilizing this VTS technique works very well at opening this door for our students.”

Alyssa Mazzoli DMD 16 explains how the program helped her as a student, “As we go through dental school, it is often easy for students to lose sight of the fact that there is a human being in your dental chair, and not just another root canal or amalgam.” She continued, “This person is attached to a brain, a heart, a voice. The Isabella Gardner museum trip was a great way to instill the important value of observation. We looked at a few paintings and sculptures and tried to interpret the facial expressions and body language of the subjects and attach them to a feeling. This is certainly a valuable trait to develop not only as a future healthcare provider, but also as a productive member of society.”

Dr. Fleisher first became interested about the potential benefits of art appreciation for dental students three years ago, when he read about a program at Yale Medical School that brought medical students to the University’s museums. He presented the idea to Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter—a leader who encourages and supports innovative and creative approaches to education—who supported implementing a similar program at GSDM. Dr. Fleisher then found a receptive partner in the Gardner Museum. Michelle Grohe, the Museum’s Director of School and Teacher Programs, has been instrumental in making the partnership with GSDM a success.

While similar programs exist at other schools, GSDM is the first dental school to integrate the art appreciation experience as a requirement for all first year DMD students.

Dean Hutter said, “I am grateful to Dr. Fleisher for sparking the inception of this innovative learning experience at the Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine.” He continued, “I am proud that our School has taken the lead in recognizing the importance of visual thinking and analysis by including it in the required coursework for our DMD students.”

Dr. Neal Fleisher speaking at The Arts Factor 2014 launch
HELLO! GOODBYE! ENDODONTICS PROGRAM CELEBRATES ITS INCOMING AND OUTGOING RESIDENTS

Hello! Goodbye! The Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM) Advanced Specialty Education Program in Endodontics opened the year with a joint hello/goodbye party celebrating the new Endodontic residents and honoring the graduating residents. The event was held in the Student Village 1 ballroom overlooking the Charles River on Thursday, June 26, 2014. It was hosted by Dr. Sami Chogle, Director of the Advanced Specialty Education Program in Endodontics and the GSDM Endodontic Alumni Association.

This was the first time the department hosted a hello/goodbye party which included outgoing, present, and future classes together in one celebration.

Filling in at the last minute for Director Dr. Sami Chogle, whose wife gave birth to a baby boy earlier that day, Dr. Louis Abrass, Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of Endodontics and Clinical Director of the Post-doctoral Endodontic Treatment Center, welcomed the approximately 100 guests and thanked the faculty, staff, and volunteers for all of their hard work.

He then introduced Dean Hutter, who congratulated the residents on their accomplishments, stating that the Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine Endodontics program is one of the most prestigious and respected endodontics programs worldwide and that they should be very proud of themselves. He also praised the faculty and staff for their hard work and dedication in support of the residents and the program.

Dr. Marshall Michaelian (ENDO 79), Endodontic Alumni Association President, then spoke to the incoming and outgoing residents about being difference makers in their own communities. He quoted Admiral William McRaven, who said, “If you want to change the world, start off by making your bed.”

Prior to recognizing the graduates, a very special anniversary was celebrated. Dr. Seymour Melnick, a volunteer in the endodontics department, was honored for his 35th year anniversary of volunteering in the department. A cake was presented and everyone sang him an enthusiastic happy birthday.

Dr. Abrass and Dr. Moulazadeh then presented the CAGS Class of 2014 with their certificates: Ashraf Abd-Elmeguid, Mey Alhabib, Jennifer Kim, Jose Line LeDuc, Christian Morasse, Roshanak Baghai Naini, Manal Saadoun, Arman Sa mad-Zadeh, Pablo Duluc Vega, and Eugenia Yang.

The new research residents were then introduced: Jomana Alsenan, Mona Haghani, and Dina Husein. Finally, the entering class of 2016 was introduced: Mohamed Jamal Ahmed, Munirah Almershed, Rayan Bahabri, Nauman Chatha, Neddah Hifeda, Jung Ah Lee, Evan Novick, Neda Rajablou, Tammam Sheabar, and John Workman.
APEX Students Give Oral Presentations on Dental Research

On August 15, 2014, DMD 17 students presented their research to an audience of Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM) faculty and fellow students as a part of their APEX (Applied Professional Experience) rotation. The outstanding APEX presentations explored a variety of topics and allowed for students and faculty to engage in a conversation about the challenges of dental research.

The APEX program is a unique learning opportunity offered by GSDM which integrates classroom learning with hands-on experience. This program is designed to give dental students the opportunity to engage with practicing dentists and primary investigators in a professional setting. In the first year of their APEX rotation, students have the option of participating in diverse research programs available at GSDM. They can spend two days in research training and three days in their APEX clinical assignment. Alternatively, they can spend three days in research training under the Intensive Research Elective Course IREC1 and two days in their APEX clinical assignment. After the completion of their research training, APEX students present their findings.

This year’s presentations encompassed a variety of research questions to be answered. While some students gathered data on oral diseases and molecular mechanisms, others queried patients chairside. But, as stated by APEX presenter Monica Schmidt DMD 17, all of the research conducted at GSDM shares the common goal of improving patient care.

This year’s presentations were given by the following DMD 17 students: Jobren Dingle, Grace Hinnawi, Jaegak Kim, Alex Nguyen, Monica Schmidt, Michael Whitcomb, and Garrett Wingrove.

Dean Hutter had this to say about the event, “I would like to commend our APEX students for their excellent presentations.” He continued, “The research they presented was thought provoking and reflective of the high standards we hold here at GSDM. I would also like to thank the faculty mentors for their support and guidance and Dr. Kukuruzinska and Ms. Hourani for their support of the GSDM APEX Research Program.”

Following the APEX Presentations, the Student Research Group (SRG) held a meeting, presided over by Isha Suri DMD 15, to vote on two vacant positions. GSDM’s SRG is a chapter of the National Student Research Group (NSRG), which is sponsored by the American Association for Dental Research. The outcome of this year’s elections named Mohamed Bayoumy DMD 16 as vice-president, and Michael Whitcomb DMD 17, as treasurer of the SRG. Matthew Green DMD 15, secretary of the SRG, was appointed as the New England region’s AADR NSRG Regional Representative for a second year.

The APEX program is a unique learning opportunity offered by GSDM which integrates classroom learning with hands-on experience.
ANNUAL DINNER HONORS 2014 OMFS GRADS

The Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSMD) Department of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery (OMFS) hosted a graduation reception on Wednesday, June 18, 2014, at the Venezia Restaurant, in Boston, honoring graduates of the residency program who recently earned their Certificates of Advanced Graduate Study (CAGS).

Dr. Pushkar Mehra, Chair of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery and Associate Dean for Hospital Affairs, and Dr. Andrew Salama, Director of Head and Neck Oncology, Director of Residency Training, and Assistant Professor, presented the Certificates of Advanced Graduate Study to the graduates. Graduates included: OMFS 4th Year Residents Drs. Eric Hoverstad, Olena Norris, and Mariana Velazquez, and from the one-year Internship Program, Drs. Layeeg Ahmed and Amir Yavari.

To the graduates, Dr. Mehra said, “The skills you have acquired are unique and I congratulate you on your accomplishments.” He continued, “The faculty and staff are to be commended for their role in your progress and development. Your work, dedication, and loyalty have made all of us here very proud.”

Patient Coordinator Bruce Perrin, nominated by faculty and managers, received the Employee of the Year Award. Assistant Professor in the Department of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery and Director of the Preliminary Internship Program Dr. Timothy Osborn, nominated by residents, earned the Faculty of the Year Award.

2014 PAUL AMBROSE SCHOLAR MATT MARA DMD 16 SEEKS STRONGER INTERPROFESSIONAL TIES TO ENHANCE COMMUNITY HEALTH

Matt Mara DMD 16 attended a Student Leadership Symposium in Washington, DC, June 20–22, 2014, as a 2014 Paul Ambrose Scholar with 39 other scholar students from a range of health professions.

As a Paul Ambrose Scholar, Mara is developing and implementing a community-focused project that touches on some of the high-priority health issues in the U.S. population highlighted in the Healthy People 2020 Leading Health Indicators developed by the Department of Health & Human Service.

The Paul Ambrose Scholars Program is a collaborative initiative between the Association for Prevention Teaching and Research and the Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion. The program prepares public health and clinical health professions students to address population health challenges at the national and community level.

Mara described the Student Leadership Symposium as an “awesome experience.” There, he networked with students from a spectrum of health professions, including allopathic medicine, graduate nursing, physician assistant programs, public health, osteopathic medicine, and pharmacy.

“There are so many different routes to creating a change in your future career; and you don’t really realize this until you’re with a group of people who have similar interests to you,” said Mara. “It was really nice to talk to other students and make some really good friends.”

The symposium agenda included talks from public health leaders relating to prevention, health policy advocacy, social determinants of health; mentored roundtables; interprofessional networking; and project planning and refinement.

A highlight of the symposium was a talk given by the Acting United States Surgeon General, Rear Admiral Boris D. Lushniak. Mara delivered the final question of the discussion session with Dr. Lushniak: He asked the Surgeon General what he had had for breakfast that morning. His answer: “wheat toast, eggs, and yogurt.”

For his project as Paul Ambrose Scholar, Mara will be working to create a referral system between Boston Medical Center and...
the Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM) that links obstetric care, addiction counseling, and dentistry.

Inspiration for this project to help women have healthier pregnancies came from an elective Spectrum of Patient Advocacy course, when Dr. Michelle Sia, an obstetrician at Boston Medical Center (BMC), visited Mara’s class to introduce Project RESPECT. It is an interdisciplinary treatment program involving high-risk obstetrical care, psychiatric evaluation and treatment, group counseling services, and individual support for addiction recovery and labor coaching via the Birth Sisters program. Mara saw immediately that adding oral health care to the services offered to these women would make their care truly comprehensive.

Mara points out that pregnancy presents many new oral health care challenges. For instance, hormonal changes put pregnant women at greater risk for gum disease. Oral health care practitioners can also give practical advice, such as how soon to brush after experiencing vomiting from morning sickness. “Everyone’s initial instinct is to immediately brush your teeth,” said Mara. “But really you should wait as long as 20 minutes because brushing with acid in your mouth can destroy enamel.”

Mara does not intend for his project to end in a year, but become a sustainable link between some of the programs at BMC and GSDM.

“I’m hoping that more students will be involved in this kind of thing,” said Mara. “It’s a great opportunity to really expand outside of the mouth, which is where we spend a lot of time thinking. It’s a valuable experience to be able to interact with other students from different professions.”

Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter said, “Congratulations to Matt on his outstanding achievement.” He continued, “I am always proud to see our students achieve national recognition. I strongly support Matt’s goal of seeking robust interprofessional ties within our Medical Campus to make a positive impact on the overall health of our community.”

AEGD AND PGOE RESIDENTS HONORED AT GRADUATION RECEPTION

Clinical Professor and Director of the Dental Health Center and Advanced Education in General Dentistry Program Dr. John Ictech-Cassis and Professor and Chair of the Department of Restorative Sciences & Biomaterials Dr. Dan Nathanson hosted a graduation reception in honor of the 2014 graduates of the Advanced Specialty Education Program in General Dentistry (AEGD) and Post Graduate Operative and Esthetic Program (PGOE). The event was held at the Student Village on Saturday, June 21, 2014.

At the reception, Dr. Cassis said, “Your hard work, dedication, and enthusiasm have made you a great general dentist which has made all of us here very proud.” Dr. Nathanson added, “I congratulate you for your accomplishments and I commend the faculty and staff for their dedication to both programs.”

Immediate Past-President of the GSDM Alumni Association and Chair of the GSDM Alumni Board, Clinical Assistant Professor Tina Valades welcomed the new graduates to the Alumni Association, “You now join an extended family of GSDM alumni across the globe, and you can be assured that your fellow alumni and our entire School will continue to support you in your ongoing pursuit of excellence in our profession.”

After dinner, Dr. Cassis announced the names of the graduates of the 2014 AEGD and PGOE programs. Graduates of the AEGD program include: Nicholas Baldelli, Gianluca Giorgini, Jae Ha Jung, Nilofar Khosravian, Rohan Kirtane, Parsia Koleini, Bohyun Lee, Fransheska Ovalles, Anya Pukhovitskaya, Danny Shum, Lindy Su, and Ahmed Zarrough.

Graduates of the PGOE program include: Ehab Alshouibi and Maha Linjawi.

Dr. Lindy Su received the AEGD Clinical Excellence Award, and Dr. Parsia Koleini received the AEGD Clinical Proficiency Award. Dr. Ehab Alshouibi received the Certificate of Outstanding Achievement & Clinical Proficiency in the Operative and Esthetic Dentistry Program.

AEGD Class Representative Parsia Koleini then spoke. He thanked the faculty and staff for their hard work throughout the year and said that his and his fellow residents’ skills had greatly improved as a result of the faculty’s dedication. He also spoke about how important each of the residents had become to him.

The graduates presented a slideshow of highlights from their days here at GSDM.
AARON MERTZ DMD 16 PUBLISHES FINDINGS ON THE PERCEPTION OF COMMUNITY WATER FLUORIDATION IN SOCIAL MEDIA AND ON THE INTERNET

Aaron Mertz DMD 16 is the lead author of a paper titled “Community Water Fluoridation on the Internet and Social Media,” which was published in the August 2014 issue of the Journal of the Massachusetts Dental Society. The article is co-authored by Dr. Myron Allukian Jr., Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of Health Policy & Health Services Research. Dr. Allukian is President of the Massachusetts Coalition for Oral Health and Past President of the American Public Health Association.

Over the years, there has been an ongoing debate about the safety and usefulness of adding fluoride to public water supplies. At the beginning of this study, Mertz sought to uncover how Community Water Fluoridation (CWF) is perceived on the internet and in social media, and in what ways anti-CWF and pro-CWF groups are represented. Although Community Water Fluoridation is a public health measure recognized by numerous reliable medical, dental, and health organizations as both safe and beneficial, Mertz’s findings conclude that most of the internet and social media depict CWF negatively.

The study was conducted by gathering data from several types of popular social media and internet platforms, including Twitter, Facebook, YouTube, and CWF websites. Mertz looked at the traffic on several websites, totaled CWF related posts on Twitter, tallied groups and subgroups for CWF on Facebook and compared the number of pro-CWF to anti-CWF material on YouTube. The results were conclusive: CWF is presented in a very negative light on the internet and in social media, and internet users are being exposed to information which is inaccurate.

Mertz had this to say about his findings: “Thousands of American’s are misinformed daily about the safety, health and economic benefits of community water fluoridation because of what they read on the Internet. It is our responsibility as dentists to ensure that our patients are well informed when they have questions about fluoridated water, that we can recognize reputable versus disreputable online resources, and that we can refer them to trustworthy information.”

The article emphasizes that it is vitally important for dentists and health practitioners to utilize the internet more effectively in sharing with the public accurate information on CWF. During his time at GSDM, Mertz has made it his mission to increase awareness about this important oral public health issue.

He was recognized for his efforts at the Anthony Westwater Jong Memorial Community Dental Public Health Awards on November 4, 2013, at the Metcalf Trustee Ballroom at Boston University, held during the 141st Annual Meeting of the American Public Health Association. At the awards ceremony, he received the Jong Memorial Community Dental Health Pre-Professional Award. Mertz was mentored in this work by Dr. Myron Allukian.

Mertz then presented on the topic at Yankee Dental Congress 2015 on a panel called: “New Fluoridation Challenges and Social Media.” The panel was held 8-10 a.m. on Thursday, January 29, 2015. On the panel with Mertz will be Dr. Myron Allukian Jr, Dr. John Fisher, and Dr. Barbara Gooch.

GSDM VOLUNTEERS LEND A HELPING HAND TO PEOPLE WITH COGNITIVE DISABILITIES

On September 18, 2014, volunteers from the Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM) participated in the Bay Cove Human Services annual wellness fair at the Gill Wellness Center in Jamaica Plain.

Bay Cove Human Services is a private, non-profit corporation that provides a wide variety of services to individuals and their families who face the challenges of developmental disabilities, aging, mental illness, and drug and alcohol addiction. The organization holds the wellness fair to improve health awareness through education and prevention.

Some of the offerings to attendees of the fair were health screenings, blood pressure and glucose checks, and information on community-based health services. Attendees were treated to music and food and also participated in various wellness activities.

Led by Oral Health Promotion Director Kathy Lituri, the GSDM volunteers offered oral health care education, screenings, and referrals to the attendees. The volunteers were Clinical Instructor of Health Policy & Health Services Research Gladys Carrasco, Matthew Jones DMD 18, Vrushali Mirajkar AS 16, Ifeanyichukwu Okoye AS 16, and Aditi Rajul AS 16.
GSDM STUDENTS SHARE INTERNATIONAL ELECTIVE EXTERNSHIP EXPERIENCES

On Thursday, April 30, 2015, Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM) students gave a well-attended presentation to the GSDM community about their International Elective Externship trips this past winter.

Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter opened the meeting by congratulating all students who participated in an International Elective Externship (IEE) and praised them for their dedication to serving those in need. Following Dean Hutter’s remarks, the presentation began with a slideshow showing GSDM students around the world providing much-needed dental care to underserved populations. Following the slideshow, students from each IEE gave a presentation describing their unforgettable trips and the cultural experiences they participated in. A total of 16 students discussed their experiences of 5 different externship trips to Guatemala, Panama, India, and Nicaragua. At the conclusion of the meeting, Dean Hutter presented each student with a certificate of recognition.

The DMD 15 students who participated in the IEEs this past winter were: Jasnoor Mann, Andrew Soule-Hinds, Anne Tran, and Josh Williams, who went to Guatemala January 8–19, 2015; Ingy Alhelawe, Justine Karanian, Emma Amal Lattouf, and Linda Linsinbigler who went to Guatemala January 15–26, 2015; Christopher Chan and Ramandeep Samra who went to Panama January 15–26, 2015; Sonal Chhanabhai, Amrita Patel, and Samita Sandhu who went to India January 18–February 2, 2015; and Michelle DaRocha, Stephanie Leung, and Keely Matheson who went to Nicaragua February 9–18, 2015. Dr. Thomas Kilgore was also recognized for his participation in the IEE to Guatemala.

Director of Global Initiatives Ms. Kathy Held said, “I’m so very proud of the international elective externship volunteers this year. It is hard to imagine the physical and emotional stresses such a mission can bring unless you have participated in one.” She added, “I have been fortunate to be a member of some of these teams in the past and have seen firsthand how dedicated and committed the GSDM students are to providing care.”

TREVOR PACKER WINS PRIZE FOR POSTER AT CTSI SYMPOSIUM

On Wednesday, October 1, 2014, the Boston University Clinical and Translational Science Institute (CTSI) hosted its fourth annual symposium titled, “Research on Disparities in Health Care.” This event included a keynote address by Dr. Olufunmilayo Olopade, an internist and medical oncologist from the University of Chicago, followed by several oral presentations and a poster session. The Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM) was well represented at the event by numerous faculty and student attendees, as well as three poster session participants.

The mission of the CTSI is to strengthen and promote translational science within the Boston University research community. This annual symposium not only showcases many of the ongoing translational projects at the University, but also informs participants about various collaborations and opportunities in trans-disciplinary research. This year’s event focused on exploring the various health care inequalities often found in lower income areas, or within certain minority groups.

Trevor Packer, Research Study Technician for the Department of Molecular & Cell Biology at GSDM, won the second place prize and $500 for his poster, “Targeting the N-glycosylation regulating gene, DPAGT1, for Oral Cancer.” Oral cancer, which presents primarily as oral squamous cell carcinoma (OSCC), is an aggressive disease that preferentially affects underserved minorities. Since Fall 2013, Packer has been conducting research in Dr. Maria Kukuruzinska’s lab, working to elucidate the molecular mechanisms of oral cancer development. Packer’s poster discussed how the N-glycosylation gene, DPAGT1, promotes oral cancer cell migration in vitro, and tongue tumor formation and metastasis in vivo. This research identified DPAGT1 as a novel candidate target for OSCC therapies.

Packer had this to say about receiving the award: “I was thrilled to have been a part of the Fourth Annual BU CTSI Translational Science Symposium. There were many intriguing oral and poster presentations. With so many great minds there, I was very proud to have received the second place award for my poster presentation and represent the GSDM. I would like to thank Dr. Maria Kukuruzinska and also my colleagues in Dr. Kukuruzinska’s lab.”

Two other poster session participants from GSDM presented at this symposium. Dr. Manish Bais, Research Assistant Professor in the Department of Molecular & Cell Biology presented his poster, “Orthotopic Oral Cancer Mouse Model for Anti-oral Cancer Drug Screening,” and GSDM post-graduate student Poornima Kadagad presented her poster titled, “Oral cancer disparities between populations in different world economies.” Kadagad was mentored in this work by Dr. Radhika Chigurupati, Associate Professor and Director of Research in the Department of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery.
2014 PERIODONTOLOGY CLASS CELEBRATED AT GRADUATION DINNER

On the evening of July 1, 2014, Residents from the Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM) Periodontology Class of 2014 celebrated their graduation at the BU Castle. The annual graduation dinner featured a cocktail hour, awards, and speeches. The night kicked off with a cocktail hour for all the graduating residents.

Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter gave welcoming remarks to everyone in attendance. “Thank you to the families and friends of the graduates for their unwavering support,” said Dean Hutter. “It comes as no surprise that the success of this magnificent program can be credited to Dr. Dibart, his faculty, and his staff.

To the graduates, Dean Hutter said, “I wish you success in your careers and look forward to you staying in touch as you continue to be part of the Boston University family as alumni.”

Chair of the Department of Periodontology Dr. Serge Dibart also gave a short speech to the class, staff, and faculty.

Several awards were given to the graduating students. Dr. Drew Czernick earned the Periodontology Award. The Stallard Award for Research was given to Dr. Vani Bhatnagar. The Ruben Scholarship was awarded to Justin Cifuni GMS 07, DMD 11, AEGD 12, a current third year Periodontology Resident. The Ruben Scholarship is given to a Resident who is entering his or her third year. The recipient is selected by department faculty. Dr. Czernick, speaking on the behalf of class representative Dr. Bhatnagar, took the time to thank the staff and faculty.

Two faculty members also received awards. Associate Dean for Academic Affairs Dr. Cataldo Leone received the Ongoing Leadership and Guidance to Enable the Department to Excel award. An award from the American Academy of Periodontology was given to Clinical Associate Professor in the Department of Periodontology Dr. Albert Price.


GSDM VOLUNTEERS LEND A HELPING HAND AT THE MASSCARE HEALTH AND FITNESS FAIR

On August 16, 2014, members of the Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM) community volunteered at the MassCARE Health and Fitness Fair at the Fesseden School in Newton, Massachusetts. The Health and Fitness Fair serves HIV positive women, children, youth, and their families with a day of fun activities, as well as health and wellness screenings and information.

Oral Health Promotion Director Kathy Lituri organized GSDM’s participation in the event. Lituri, along with 16 student and faculty volunteers, spent the morning and afternoon providing dental screenings and giving a 20 minute presentation on oral health to roughly 100 guests at the fair. In addition, attendees could stop by the GSDM booth to pick up health and wellness information and pamphlets promoting oral health. Dental-related activities and games for children were also a big hit at the booth. The day provided an opportunity for students to share their expertise as oral health professionals, as well as learn more about oral health issues affecting women living with HIV.

The volunteers were invited to stay for the rest of the fair after they completed their service activities in the early afternoon. Volunteers enjoyed a barbecue, as well as swimming, games, and sports.

“I want to thank each and every one of you for your contributions to the MassCARE event,” Lituri said to the volunteers after the event. “You were poised, professional, and made a positive impact on both the children and adults you encountered and interacted with. It is because of volunteers like yourselves that we are able to successfully participate in these events.”

Student volunteers for the MassCARE Health and Fitness Fair were: William Alvarez AS 16, Margi Chan DMD 16, Delaney Jorgensen DMD 18, Ana Keohane AS 16, Mira Khouzam AS 16, Jeongyin Kim AS 15, Sandip Ladani AS 16, Jena Lee DMD 18, Mike Mayr DMD 16, Alyssa Mazzoli DMD 16, Mohammed Mourad (pre-dental), Olga Spivak AS 16, Jamie Waller DMD 18, Ellen Yang (pre-dental), and Stanley Ye DMD 17. Faculty volunteers included: Assistant Professor in the Department of Health Policy & Health Services Research and Director of School-based Programs Dr. Corinna Culler and Research Dental Assistant Justin Escobar.
GSDM HOSTS GROUP FROM ITALY FOR CE COURSE IN PERIODONTAL MICRO SURGERY

For over 15 years, the Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM) Department of Periodontology has hosted a unique, weeklong continuing education program that offers general dentists from abroad the opportunity to train in basic microsurgery and learn microsurgery for periodontal plastic surgery repair. During the week of September 8-12, 2014, a lively group of 24 general dentists from Italy participated in the continuing education program, which was led by the Chair of the Department of Periodontology and Director of the Advanced Specialty Education Program in Periodontics Dr. Serge Dibart, Orthopedic Surgeon and Director of Microsurgery Training at MD Anderson Cancer Center Dr. David Pan, Clinical Associate Professor of Periodontology Dr. Albert Price, and Clinical Associate Professor of Periodontology Dr. Ming Fang Su.

The program included lectures, hands-on training using pig jaws and duck feet, viewing several live surgeries, group dinners, and a night at Fenway Park to take in a Red Sox game. The week concluded with a certificate award ceremony for the attendees at the BU Castle. According to Dr. Dibart, the Periodontal Microsurgery Program is the only one of its kind in the United States. He said, “The participants were quite enthused and asked for more training sessions in the future as they found the experience to be an ‘eye-opener’ (pun intended).”

The program received rave reviews from the Italian group due to its unique structure and heavy emphasis of hands-on learning and live, interactive surgeries. Most participants did not speak English, but given Dr. Dibart’s fluency in Italian, the group didn’t miss a beat.

To complement the hands-on learning, the group enjoyed watching four live surgeries streamed from the Implant Surgery Suite directly into the classroom. This two-way communication proved valuable for the attendees due to the ability to see and hear the surgeon and ask questions as the surgery progressed. Dr. Su performed a Guided Bone Regeneration (GBR) after a failed implant and an upper left sinus lift, Dr. Price performed an anterior site augmentation and a sinus lift, and Dr. Dibart performed microsurgery.

One participant said, “The program was a good combination of didactic and hands-on learning. It was very good to watch surgery by stream TV.” Another participant praised the course structure by saying, “It was a really unique course. I was enthusiastic about the practical training in microsurgery.”

GSDM’S ADEA STUDENTS TEACH ASPIRING DENTAL ASSISTANTS IN CE PROGRAM

On Friday, September 19, 2014, Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM) DMD students who are also members of the American Dental Education Association (ADEA) worked alongside six aspiring dental assistants learning foundational skills in dental assisting. The dental assisting students are participating in a nine-week Continuing Education (CE) course taught at GSDM.

The day included lectures from several ADEA student members on topics including basic oral anatomy, medical history, infection control, and an introduction to dental instruments. This daylong collaboration allowed ADEA student members to establish relationships with aspiring dental assistants while the dental assisting students gained valuable experience in the Simulation Learning Center. Each aspiring dental assistant had the opportunity to work alongside ADEA students who were charged with placing an amalgam restoration and their duties included handing instruments to ADEA students and placing rubber dams on simulated patients.

Matthew Mara DMD 16 commented on the experience: “BU ASDA Dental Education Committee / ADEA Chapter members were thrilled to be able to offer the pre-clinical experience to the Dental Assisting Students. As dental students we have learned the value of a strong pre-clinical foundation to our clinical coursework and enjoyed offering a simulation experience to our dental assisting peers.” He continued, “Dental assistants play a valuable role in the dental team, and we hope to offer this experience to all dental assisting classes in the future!”
On Tuesday, August 26, 2014, 34 members of the Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM) community volunteered their time at the 15th Annual Countdown to Kindergarten Celebration. Countdown to Kindergarten is an annual event at the Children’s Museum in Boston for families to learn about all things kindergarten. This was GSDM’s ninth year participating in the event.

Oral Health Promotion Director Kathy Lituri organized GSDM’s participation in the event. Volunteers provided dental screenings and led oral health activities for parents and kids in attendance, including instructing the children on brushing techniques with stuffed animals and teaching about oral health through arts and crafts. Parents also had the opportunity to talk to the volunteers and ask questions while their children were learning.

The evening was a huge success for Countdown to Kindergarten and GSDM. After three hours, GSDM volunteers had performed 97 dental screenings and interacted with hundreds of families.

“I want to thank each and every one of you for volunteering at the 15th annual Countdown to Kindergarten Celebration,” Lituri said to the volunteers after the event. “Events like this are only successful because of volunteers like you. Thank you for your time and your professionalism.”

Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter said, “I am extremely proud of our students and faculty who volunteered for this important event. Countdown to Kindergarten is significant to the Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine, as it helps the families in our Boston community. The time our volunteers gave to Countdown to Kindergarten helped make our participation in the event a success. Thank you to all who came out and helped.”

Student volunteers included: Heidi Borenstein DMD 17, Margi Chan DMD 16, Keerthy Chilakamarry (pre-dental), Shelby Curtis DMD 16, Michelle Dube DMD 15, Cassandra Fevolo DMD 15, Chiraag Gohel (pre-dental), Tony Hong DMD 18, Navtej Kang AS 16, Justine Karanian DMD 15, Ana Keohane AS 16, Courtney Knapnik DMD 16, Jae Kwak DMD 16, Andrea Lam DMD 16, Lana Le DMD 16, Jena Lee DMD 18, Brian Leibtog DMD 15, Matt Mara DMD 16, Mohammad Mourad (pre-dental), Mona Najafi DMD 16, Sara Najafi DMD 17, Nora Nakshabendi DMD 16, Alex Nguyen DMD 17, Divya Reddy (pre-dental), Rafaela Sampaio DMD 18, Kali Stewart DMD 15, Megan Sullivan DMD 18, Farnaz Tartibi DMD 16, and Jame Waller DMD 18. Faculty volunteers included Group Practice Leader Dr. Maria Angela Cancado, Clinical Instructor in the Department of General Dentistry Dr. Caroline Clerisme, and Clinical Instructor in the Department of Health Policy & Health Services Research Dee Devlin.
GSDM GLOBAL DAYS OF SERVICE 2015

During this year’s Global Days of Service, March 27–May 16, 2015, 140 students, faculty, and staff from Boston University’s Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM) volunteered a total of 494.5 hours at several different community service locations throughout Boston.

Boston University’s Global Days of Service is an annual, month-long, event that allows alumni, students, faculty, staff, and friends from all areas of the Boston University network to give back to their local, national, and international communities.

This year, a total of 6,944 hours of service were logged by Boston University volunteers during the month-long event.

Members of the GSDM community served their 494.5 volunteer (14%) hours at 16 different service locations across Boston, helping to make this year’s Global Days of Service a huge success.

“I am so proud to be Dean of an institution comprised of so many students, faculty, and staff members who are engaged in and committed to our community,” said Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter.
GSDM | News in Brief

Greater Boston Food Bank

Healthy Kid’s Fair

ISBCC

Haley House

Haley House

Rosie’s Place
HOMELESS VETERANS RECEIVE ASSISTANCE FROM GSDM VOLUNTEERS AT STAND DOWN

Massachusetts Stand Down is a community program designed to help homeless veterans, and is hosted by the Department of Veterans Affairs. Held on August 22, 2014, the annual daylong event gives homeless and at-risk veterans a chance to receive food, shelter, clothing, health services, and more. This year, the event was held at the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) 103 in Dorchester, Massachusetts.

Volunteers from the Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM) were eager to offer assistance to veterans in need. Oral Health Promotion Director Kathy Lituri organized a full day of service consisting of two volunteer shifts—a morning and an afternoon—to be available and help the more than 500 veterans in attendance. In addition to Lituri, 29 volunteers donated their time throughout the day.

For the GSDM volunteers, the day consisted of promoting oral health by providing screenings, denture cleaning, and labeling. Packets with information, brochures, and visuals were available to any veteran who needed more information. Attendance was high and the veterans were extremely grateful for the efforts of GSDM’s volunteers. According to Lituri, they screened about 75 people and interacted with many more. Lituri told the volunteers afterwards: “Each of you played a significant role in not only promoting oral health and providing screenings, but I really want to call attention to your fabulous listening skills and ability to make the patients feel comfortable and well cared for.”

“The success of the School’s outreach programs relies on individuals like you who volunteer their time and expertise,” she continued. “It was a pleasure to work with each and every one of you.”

GSDM volunteers at Stand Down were: Ahmad Al Najjar DMD 16, Nicholas Capezio DMD 18, Jasmine Chopra AS 15, Shelby Curtis DMD 16, Matthew Garcia DMD 15, Siavash Golaby Sanajany DMD 15, Johnny Gonzalez DMD 15, Delaney Jorgensen DMD 18, Sloane Kaminski-Ditzel DMD 18, Israel Korobkin DMD 16, Andrea Lam DMD 16, Grace Lee DMD 15, Charles Lewis DMD 18, Sasha Manchanda DMD 18, Vrushali Mirajkar AS 16, Carol Patel DMD 16, Shivani Patel DMD 16, Sooyeon Shim DMD 15, Casey Smadour DMD 16, Lyle Smith DMD 15, Zachary Snider DMD 18, Megan Sullivan DMD 18, Guarev Swarup AS 15, Kevin Treger DMD 16, and Idin Zhalehdoust DMD 16. In addition, Lituri was joined by faculty volunteers Clinical Instructor Dr. Gladys Carrasco, Director of Global Initiatives Kathy Held, Clinical Assistant Professor and Practice Leader Dr. Michael McQueen, and Assistant Dean for Faculty Development and Director of the Center for Clinical Research Dr. Judith Jones.

GSDM Volunteers Promote Oral Health at Healthy Baby, Healthy Child Family Celebration

On Tuesday, August 9, 2014, four Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM) students volunteered their time to promote oral health and offer dental screenings to families participating in the Healthy Baby/Healthy Child Program at the Stony Brooke Reservation in Hyde Park. The six-week educational program concluded with a celebration that offered a great opportunity for GSDM students to learn more about the oral health of new moms, pregnant women, and children. Furthermore, it allowed GSDM students to interact with public health nurses, social workers, and advocates—not to mention it was an excellent way to recruit patients and have fun at the same time!

The Healthy Baby/Healthy Child Program of the Boston Public Health Commission is an innovative home-visiting program whose mission it is to promote the health and wellbeing of women, children, and families in Boston, particularly those living in communities that are disproportionately impacted by infant mortality and other health disparities. In existence for 18 years, the program has demonstrated success in providing home and community-based services to high-risk pregnant and parenting women and children up to three years of age.

The celebration was well-attended by many local families along with various program staff and local care providers. In addition to providing screenings and promoting proper oral hygiene, the volunteers had some fun with the families by making tooth necklaces, brushing puppet teeth, and playing “name that celebrity smile.”

GSDM volunteers included: Janna Feldman DMD 16, Courtney Knapik DMD 16, Sachin Kocharekar AS 15, and Abhiroop Kotha AS 15. Janna Feldman DMD 16 summed up her experience at the
celebration by saying, “The most rewarding aspects of my experience at the Healthy Baby/Healthy Child celebration were interacting with the children, experiencing their excitement as they learned to brush their teeth, and leaving knowing that their mothers learned new techniques to take care of their children’s oral health.”

Courtney Knapik DMD 16 concluded, “Although I was a little nervous, my first experience screening children turned out to be a very relaxing yet fulfilling afternoon. The children swarmed our models to practice brushing and showcase their skills. As we quickly built their trust and had the opportunity to look into their tiny mouths, it began as a screening, but ended up being an educational moment for them and their families.” She continued, “A day of screening brought me to the realization that these families were hanging on to my every word, not only as a dentist, or even a healthcare professional, but as a human being lending a helping hand.”

Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter said, “I want to thank our student volunteers for attending the Healthy Baby/Healthy Child event.” He continued, “Serving our community is a very important part of our mission and your efforts are highly valued and greatly appreciated.”

Dr. Schnell said, “My teacher appreciation award was a lovely surprise. Recognition by the students is sincerely gratifying and I am invigorated by this honor.”

“I want to congratulate Dr. Ronni Schnell for her recognition by students with the Teacher Appreciation Award,” said Dean Hutter. “She sets a positive example to our students and is an excellent faculty advisor to the GSDM Chapter of Alpha Omega. To all of the new members of Alpha Omega—welcome, and best wishes to the graduating members.”

Alpha Omega is the oldest international dental organization, founded in 1907 by students to fight discrimination in dental schools. Their mission includes education and philanthropy. The organization is responsible for creating two dental schools in Israel: the Hebrew University-Hadassah School of Dentistry and the Tel Aviv University Maurice and Gabriela Goldschleger School of Dental Medicine.
GSDM STUDENTS TRAVEL TO GRACIAS, HONDURAS, TO PROVIDE DENTAL CARE

This past September, two Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM) students volunteered their time and talent treating Honduran residents in a very small, remote town called Gracias. During the week of September 13-20, 2014, Stephanie Leung DMD 15 and Thomas Mosley DMD 15 participated in an externship under the guidance of Medical, Eye, and Dental International Care Organization (MEDICO), a nonprofit humanitarian service organization based in Austin, Texas, that has provided comprehensive health care in Central America since 1990. Its mission is to deliver medical, eye, and dental care and educational services to people in developing countries who have little or no access to health care.

Prior to their arrival in Gracias, Leung and Mosley admitted that they didn’t know what to expect and what oral-related challenges they would see in such a remote location. Since Honduras has a population of 8 million, with 65 percent of the population at or below poverty and a physician density of 57 physicians per 1,000 people, they felt it was safe to assume they would be exposed to somewhat complex cases.

Their assumptions were confirmed on the first day the makeshift dental treatment center opened, when patients began lining up to be seen in the early morning hours. Working under the supervision of and alongside MEDICO’s President, Dr. Robert Gurmankin and GSDM alum, Jahan Monirian DMD 13, Leung and Mosley hit the ground running providing amalgams, cleanings, composites, and a large number of tooth extractions.

Extensive tooth decay was common among the patients. Dental floss is very hard to come by in the region and the students noted that the majority of patients had already undergone multiple tooth extractions in the past and many specifically requested more due to continuing pain. At the end of the week, the team had seen a total of 364 patients. They performed 204 extractions, 112 composites, 143 cleanings, and 55 amalgam restorations (mainly in the back teeth).

When asked how the trip to Honduras contributed to their education, Mosley said, “A lot more practice.” He continued, “There were a limited number of providers and an unlimited number of patients waiting to be seen. The volume of hands-on patient contact each day was eye-opening.”

Leung added, “As GSDM students, work integrity is paramount. Due to the high volume of patients we saw in Honduras, we learned to think fast and work efficiently, while providing excellent dental care.”

Dean Hutter commended Leung and Mosley, “I appreciate and applaud their enthusiasm and willingness to volunteer for this elective externship to Honduras,” he said. He continued, “I am very proud of all of our students who commit to serving those in need.”

GSDM STUDENTS TRAVEL TO GRACIAS, HONDURAS, TO PROVIDE DENTAL CARE

Stephanie Leung DMD 15 works on a patient in Gracias, Honduras

RECEPTION CELEBRATES COMPLETION OF THE FIRST ACADEMIC PROGRAM REVIEW

On November 12, 2014, Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter and Associate Dean for Academic Affairs Dr. Cataldo W. Leone held a reception at the Metcalf Trustee Ballroom to celebrate the successful completion of the first Academic Program Review (APR) of the Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM). APR is a University-wide initiative designed to assess the quality of the educational and research missions of various units. GSDM’s APR process was an intensive year-and-a-half review of the pre-doctoral, post-doctoral, graduate, and faculty educational and research programs. Completed this past summer, it provided the University with an external appraisal of the School’s relative standing in comparison with its peer institutions.

Invitations to the reception were extended to faculty and staff who played important roles during the APR process. Additionally present were Medical Campus Provost Dr. Karen Antman and Manager of Academic Program Review and Strategic Initiatives in the Office of the University Provost Ms. Amanda Urias. The reception was a relaxed, enjoyable event that was well attended by over 70 faculty and staff. In his laudatory remarks, Dean Hutter thanked everyone for their contribution to the success of the review.

Dr. Leone noted further that, “It was very important for Dean Hutter and I to bring together everyone involved in the APR, not only to celebrate a successful outcome, but also to acknowledge the hard work and dedication put forth by all.”

The APR process is a six to seven year cycle and will be conducted again approximately in the year 2020. To learn more about the APR, visit the website of the University Provost.
EXTERNSHIP PROGRAM TAKES GSDM STUDENTS TO HONDURAS

In the fall of 2014, two Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM) students embarked on an excursion to San Marcos, a remote village in the mountains of Honduras, to provide dental service to poor communities with limited or no access to oral health care. From October 18-25, 2014, Kali Stewart DMD 15 and Hyunji Kim DMD 15 participated in this externship at a clinic operated by Cape CARES, a non-profit humanitarian organization based in East Orleans, Massachusetts, that’s been aiding the Honduran people since 1988. By sending volunteer teams to its sites in San Marcos, Los Encinitos and Bertin Umanzor, the organization is able to keep charts on the visiting patients and provide follow-up dental and medical care.

Upon arrival, after spending an evening getting acquainted with the volunteer group, the students traveled several hours—on dirt paths and off-road terrain—to the rural site. Located at the clinic, the volunteers’ accommodations consisted of canvas cots and limited running water. Yet, they quickly acclimated to the unfamiliar third-world environment and were impressed by the ingenuity of the Cape CARES president, a seasoned volunteer in Honduras. Using a generator and other portable devices to power essential tools such as a hand drill and suction device, they assembled a makeshift dental office on the clinic’s porch.

“We treated patients in lawn chairs relying solely on our loupe lights and sterilizing our instruments in the pressure cooker,” said Kim.

From Monday to Thursday, Stewart and Kim were running on adrenaline, as patients poured in from surrounding villages. “Cepillo de dientes!” the children said, excited to get a toothbrush. In total, the students saw 117 men, women and children, and performed numerous extractions, along with cleanings. They also assisted in restorations.

“This experience pushed me to focus on performing dentistry more efficiently and I became more comfortable with a higher volume of patients and workload than I was used to at school. Also, it exposed me to more extraction cases than I could have ever asked for,” said Kim.

One of the most memorable patients Stewart and Kim saw was a six-year-old boy who hiked to the village in the morning with his grandmother. Though the grandmother had to return to her village to care for other children, the young boy patiently waited for hours to have two molars extracted. Like all the other Hondurans, the students noticed how the little boy had a remarkably high pain tolerance. With a swollen lip he promised not to bite, the boy waited around the clinic for the rest of the day until neighbors joined him for the trek home.

On another day, the volunteers visited a local elementary school and provided oral hygiene instructions and fluoride varnish to the children. In turn, the children showed their marching band and dance performances.

It was unforgettable moments like that which made the externship such a rewarding experience for Stewart and Kim who both agree they’d enjoy volunteering for another trip in the future.

“I gained an amazing amount of dental experience as well as friendship with my classmate, other volunteers from across the country, and many Honduran people. It was incredibly rewarding to be able to help these people with little to no access to dental care while being immersed in their culture,”

—KALI STEWART DMD 15
BU ASDA MEMBERS MEET WITH BEACON HILL LEGISLATORS TO ADVOCATE FOR THE DENTAL PROFESSION

On October 6, 2014, the Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM) chapter of the American Student Dental Association (ASDA) organized the first ever Bay State Student Lobby Day at the Massachusetts State House to advocate for issues impacting dentistry and dental education.

Bay State Student Lobby Day was inspired by GSDM ASDA students who had an interest in advocacy and expressed a need for more legislative events in the Boston area. In the past, the only dental lobbying event in Massachusetts was the Massachusetts Dental Society’s Beacon Hill Lobby Day. This event largely drew attendance from the same small group of students who were actively involved in legislative efforts.

To build a larger group of ASDA legislative advocates for the Bay State Student Lobby Day, the GSDM ASDA students organized a dinner at the Heibert Lounge on October 2, for all interested ASDA District 1 members. During the event, approximately 60 students were briefed on how to speak with legislators, the significance of being actively involved in advocacy, and an overview of the issues currently being considered for this event.

The dinner was sponsored by the Massachusetts Dental Society and featured a keynote address from State Representative Denise Garlick who addressed the importance of open communication between legislators and dental students, especially in acknowledging and extending care for underserved populations such as developmentally disabled patients.

35 ASDA members took what they learned from the dinner to the State House on October 6 to attend a total of 20 meetings with legislators. This was the largest presence of ASDA members in the State House to date.

At the end of the Bay State Student Lobby Day, students reported substantial support from legislators for issues surrounding dental licensure and dental student loan debt. Several legislators requested regular updates on both of these issues once the next legislative session begins in January.

“I am very proud of the students who volunteered to serve as legislative advocates with our state representatives,” said Dean Hutter. He continued, “It is vital that our profession remain visible and vocal with legislators across the country so that they are aware of the issues of concern to dentists and dental students, as well as the scope of underserved populations in need of access to oral health care.”

The next organized lobby events were at the ASDA National Student Lobby Day in Washington, DC, April 13-14, 2015 and the annual Massachusetts Dental Society Beacon Hill Lobby Day on April 15, 2015. Both of these events also served as opportunities for ASDA members to directly protect and promote the future of the dental profession.

“It is vital that our profession remain visible and vocal with legislators across the country so that they are aware of the issues of concern to dentists and dental students, as well as the scope of underserved populations in need of access to oral health care.”

—DEAN HUTTER
On April 15, 2015, dentists and dental students from around New England descended on Beacon Hill for Beacon Hill Day 2015, an annual event where dental professionals come together to learn more about issues of concern to the dental community and to lobby their state legislators to take action on those issues. Several students from Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM) took part in the events of the day.

The 110 attendees—90 dentists and 20 dental students, 10 of whom were from GSDM—joined together at the Omni Parker House Hotel for a morning of information sharing and a conversation about issues of concern to dentists and dental students. They learned as much as possible about the issues they would be discussing with the legislators and, after everyone was fully briefed, they walked to the State House for individual meetings with legislators.

“I was surprised at how receptive legislators were to student perspectives,” said Mike Mayr DMD 16.

The main topics of discussion with legislators this year were electronic health records, dental benefit plans, and of particular interest to the dental students, dental licensure.

“I met with State Representative Brad Hill and had the opportunity to share my thoughts on dental licensure and student debt,” Mayr said. “When legislators see students take time out of their busy schedules to advocate for dentistry, I think they realize how important these issues are to us.”

In the afternoon, participants were invited to attend a continuing education course on the topic of pain management by Clinical Professor of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery at Harvard University School of Dental Medicine Dr. David Keith.

“I am proud of the students who attended Beacon Hill Day,” said Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter. “It is important that our students are actively engaged in the legislative process. I hope they remain vocal with legislators throughout their dental careers so that oral health remains an important topic to lawmakers.”

Participants from GSDM were: Ramy Allam AS 16, John Barrett DMD 17, Shawn Jones DMD 18, Anna Komnatnaya DMD 16, Grace Lee DMD 15, Mike Mayr DMD 16, Thomas Mosley DMD 15, Luis Perez DMD 18, Nehar Serry AS 16, and Garrett Wingrove DMD 17.
NICOLAS BRANSHAW DMD 16 WINS BASIC SCIENCE RESEARCH AWARD AT HINMAN SYMPOSIUM

Nicolas Branshaw DMD 16 represented Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM) at the 20th Annual Hinman Student Research Symposium, held in Memphis, Tennessee on October 31–November 2, 2014. Branshaw presented his poster, “Topographical Distribution of Phosphorylation and Hydroxyproline sites in Dentin Collagen Type 1 by Mass Spectrometry”, which was well received by judges at the poster session on Friday, October 31.

The Hinman Student Research Symposium showcases the research of dental and graduate students from dental schools across the nation. This year’s event featured 88 students representing 47 dental schools from 28 states and three Canadian provinces. Branshaw was one of only eight participants to receive an award for the research he conducted as a part of his Applied Professional Experience (APEX) rotation. He was mentored by Professor and Chair in the Department of Periodontology Dr. Serge Dibart and Associate Professor in the Department of Periodontology, and Clinical Instructor in the Department of Oral Medicine at the Harvard School of Dental Medicine Dr. Erdjan Salih.

Branshaw’s project utilized advanced mass spectrometry techniques to identify, for the first time, a significant number of phosphorylated sites within dentin collagen type 1. Collagen type 1 is one of the most abundant proteins found in the body and makes up a major part of the body’s connective tissue from non-mineralized tendon/skin/blood vessels to mineralized bone and dentin. By observing the distribution of these phosphorylation sites in dentin, Branshaw and his mentors theorize that these sites could have major implications on the initiation of biomineralization and orientation of triple-helix collagen molecules during fibrillar collagen formation in various tissues throughout the body. They have gone on to expand this work to bone, tendon and non-mineralized collagen matrices used in periodontal surgeries to confirm their theories.

Branshaw is grateful for the support he received while working on this project, “I would like to thank the Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine for every opportunity it has given me, Dr. Dibart for his leadership and investment in our research, Dr. Salih for his vast knowledge and mentorship throughout our project, as well as the Hinman Symposium for the Award and the opportunity to be a part of such a prestigious research symposium.”

“One behalf of the entire Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine, I would like to congratulate Nicolas on his success at this prestigious research symposium,” said Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter. “I would also like to thank Dr. Dibart and Dr. Salih for their dedication to research and educating our students as faculty mentors.”

GSDM students have a history of success at the Hinman Student Research Symposium. GSDM research award recipients from previous years include:

(2009) Jeffrey Clark DMD 11 was the winner of the President’s Award for Excellence in Dental Research for his oral presentation “Odontogenic Keratocyst: An Analysis of Surgical Treatment Outcomes.” Clark worked on his project with Drs. Pushkar Mehra and David Cottrell in the Department of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery.

(2011) Sultan Muhammed DMD 13 was the winner of the Most Outstanding Presentation in Clinical Research for his poster, “Upregulation of Cthrc1 N-glycoprotein Marks OSCC Tumor Spread.” Muhammed worked on his project with Dr. Maria Kukuruzinska in the Department of Molecular and Cell Biology.

(2013) Mohamed Bayoumy DMD 16 was the winner of the Basic Science Research Award for his poster: “The correlation role of Epiprofin and Tbx1 in tooth proliferation and differentiation.” Bayoumy worked on his project with Dr. Yoshiko Yamada, Chief of the Molecular Biology Section at the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research in Bethesda, Maryland.
FALL/WINTER FACULTY AND STAFF MEETING

A meeting of the Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM) faculty and staff was held Monday, December 22, 2014, at the 670 Albany Street Auditorium. The meeting recognized the latest recipient of the Henry M. Goldman Award for Distinguished Service and provided updates on progress toward short and long term goals at the School.

Keeping with tradition, Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter opened the meeting by inviting each new member of the faculty and staff to introduce themselves and warmly welcomed all of them to the GSDM family.

Dean Hutter then announced the winner of the Henry M. Goldman Award for Distinguished Service which is presented annually to one GSDM staff member who has demonstrated outstanding commitment to the School and has made an important impact on the community by working to fulfill the mission of the School. The 2014 winner was first floor Patient Supervisor Ms. Marta Diaz.

“A number of exceptional nominations were submitted on behalf of Marta,” said Dean Hutter. “Colleagues described her as incredibly responsible, respectful, dedicated, and compassionate. Marta truly embodies the ideal of excellence that is fundamental to our Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine and she is most deserving of the Henry M. Goldman Award for Distinguished Service.” Diaz was joined by her partner Gilberto Cruceta and their daughter Aleesa Cruceta.

The following presentations provided the faculty and staff with progress updates on key initiatives at GSDM:

- a presentation on the reporting of crimes on the medical campus by Boston University Police Department Sargent Daniel Healy;
- an update on the GSDM Faculty Forum by Associate Professor in the Department of Molecular & Cell Biology and (then) Faculty Forum representative on the GSDM Executive Committee Dr. Eva Helmerhorst;
- a summary of recent and future activities of the GSDM Staff Forum by Central Sterilization Manager and Staff Forum representative Ms. Adela Irias and Supply Store Assistant and Staff Forum representative Ms. Kimberley Whitaker;
- a presentation on the status of admissions for the 2014–2015 academic year by Assistant Dean for Admissions Ms. Catherine Sarkis;
- a summary of the School’s Academic Program Review by Dean Hutter and Associate Dean for Academic Affairs Dr. Cataldo Leone;

Dean Hutter presents the GSDM Award for Distinguished Service to Marta Diaz

- an update on the School-wide implementation and incorporation of digital dentistry by Associate Professor in the Department of Restorative Sciences & Biomaterials and Digital Dentistry Task-Force Implementation Chair Dr. Russell Giordano and Professor and Chair ad interim of the Department of General Dentistry and Digital Dentistry Task-Force Curriculum Incorporation Chair Dr. Celeste Kong;
- a review of GSDM facilities projects by Executive Director of Finance & Operations Mr. Tim McDonough and Director of Facilities & Operations Mr. Andy Burke; and
- an update on GSDM space programming and master planning by Dean Hutter.

In closing, Dean Hutter said, “I do hope tonight’s presentations have demonstrated to you that we are well on our way to achieving our vision for our School to become the premier academic dental institution promoting excellence in dental education, research, oral health care, and community service to improve the overall health of the global population. In addition, you all should depart this evening with a better understanding of what we have already accomplished, what we are presently accomplishing, and what we are planning on accomplishing.”
GSDM STUDENTS & STAFF VOLUNTEER AT MID-AUTUMN MOON FESTIVAL

The Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM) Asian Dental Student Organization (ADSO), in collaboration with Global & Population Health and the Tufts Asian Dental Student Association, participated in the Mid-Autumn Moon Festival on September 13, 2014, from 3-8 p.m. at Townfield Park in Dorchester, Massachusetts.

The Mid-Autumn Moon Festival is traditionally celebrated on the fifteenth day of the eighth lunisolar month, when the night moon is supposed to be the brightest and fullest. Due to inclement weather, however, this year organizers decided to hold the event on the thirteenth day of the month. The 3,000-year-old tradition is a family celebration usually accompanied by many outdoor activities. According to Chinese and Vietnamese tradition, families stay up late, eat moon cakes, and gaze at the moon—a symbol of peace, prosperity, and family reunion.

Approximately 100 members of Chinese and Vietnamese communities attended the free festival and enjoyed food tastings, lion dances, lantern decorating, raffles, and other activities. ADSO members were on site to provide oral screenings and promote oral health. The event concluded just after dusk with the traditional lighting of the “Kongming” lanterns or “sky lanterns”, popular with Chinese and Vietnamese children.

Faculty sponsor and Oral Health Promotion Director Kathy Lituri helped organize and prepare for GSDM’s involvement at the event. GSDM volunteers included: Margi Chan DMD 16, Jonathan Kuang DMD 17, Jimmy Li DMD 17, Guanghui Ling AS 16, and alumna Anh Phi Nguyen DMD 07.

Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter said, “Thank you to Kathy Lituri and all the ADSO volunteers that worked to make the School’s outreach at the Mid-Autumn Moon Festival a huge success.” He continued, “It is through efforts like this that the Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine succeeds in its mission of excellence in community service.”

GSDM HOSTS ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY

Students, residents, faculty, and staff of Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM) filled Hiebert Lounge on Thursday, December 11, 2014, for the annual Holiday Party, hosted by Dean and Mrs. Jeffrey W. Hutter. The festivities were complete with dinner, dessert bar, live music, a photo booth, and a gingerbread house contest.

Hiebert Lounge was bustling with activity, music, and merrymaking. The lounge was trimmed with festive decorations and The Scarlet Jazz Ensemble from the BU College of Fine Arts provided lively music. Guests spent the evening mingling while enjoying a dinner catered by Chequers Café. For the first time, the Holiday Party featured a photo booth complete with reindeer antlers, Santa hats, mustaches, quirky signs, and other fun props, which were a big hit with attendees.

Ingeniously decorated gingerbread houses were also on display—all of which had been decorated by teams of students, staff, and faculty earlier in the day. Guests were given tickets and instructions to vote for their favorite gingerbread house. In a landslide, the team from the Department of Orthodontics took first prize with their house modeled after the house in the 2009 animated movie Up. Members of the winning team included: Berokh Bavar ORTHO 16, Carmen Doumit ORTHO 16, Ana Serrenho ORTHO 16, Sara Lalani ORTHO 15, Elise Vincelette ORTHO 15, Sarah AlMugairin ORTHO 19, Meghan Graham ORTHO 17, Mary Evan Thacker ORTHO 17, Nada Tashkandi ORTHO 19 and Martha Neeley ORTHO 16.

The last big event of the night was the raffle prize drawing. For most of the prizes, there were two winners—a student and a faculty/staff member. Prizes this year included: two $50 Barnes and Noble gift cards, two $50 Spa Finder gift cards, two $100 Amazon.com gift cards, two Fitbits, two Jambox Wireless Bluetooth Speakers, and two Oral-B Electric Toothbrushes, which were donated by Student Affairs.

There were also three grand-prizes, which were awarded after the student raffle tickets were combined with the faculty/staff tickets. These prizes included: two tickets in the Pepsi Student Suite for a February BU Hockey Game (donated by Student Affairs), two Bean Pot tickets (donated by Assistant Dean of Students Dr. Joseph Calabrese), and an iPad Mini.

“Kathleen and I always love hosting this annual event. It’s so wonderful to spend the holiday season with our GSDM family,” said Dean Hutter. “Congratulations to all of the raffle prize winners, and especially to the Orthodontics Residents for their prize-winning gingerbread house.”

Pre-doctoral staff having fun in the photo booth

(l-r) Margi Chan DMD 16, Jimmy Li DMD 17, Jonathan Kuang DMD 17, Guanghui Ling AS 16, Anh Phi Nguyen DMD 07, and Kathy Lituri
The Student Research Group (SRG) hosted its second Research Fair on Thursday, October 23, 2014, in room G-701 at the Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM). The Research Fair is an annual event intended to educate DMD and AS students about the research opportunities available to them should they choose to participate in the APEX (Applied Professional Experience) or IREC (Intensive Research Elective Course) programs available at GSDM. A panel of SRG officers and SRG members shared their personal research experiences, giving new students a first-hand account of what it is like to participate in research as a part of their dental education.

This year’s Research Fair was an informative and well-attended event. The participants listened to testimonials from their fellow students who have taken part in research at GSDM. SRG vice-president Mohamed Bayoumy DMD 17 made introductions and gave a brief overview of the research options available. One by one, each presenter shared their background in research and how they benefited from the experience. After the presentation, Assistant Director of Pre-doctoral Research Afaf Hourani and Director of Community-Based Education Dr. Ana Zea fielded questions from the group. Ms. Hourani also distributed informative materials on the APEX and IREC programs, research areas, and faculty mentors. Following the meeting, the SRG made themselves available to meet one on one with any participants who may have had additional questions or wanted to learn more.

Bayoumy, who helped organize the event, believes that getting new students excited about doing research is an important undertaking. “By giving the first year students a chance to interact with fellow dental students who have completed research experiences throughout their dental education, we hope to demonstrate that research can be conducted in a wide variety of fields and provides a unique experience throughout our dental education.” Bayoumy continued, “Interested students were able to hear from members of SRG currently involved in research within the Departments of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery, Orthodontics & Craniofacial Orthopedics, and Molecular & Cell Biology, and many more.”

The feedback from first year students who attended the Research Fair has been exceedingly positive. Corrine Kunkle DMD 18 was one of the 25 new students to attend and had this to say about the event, “Hearing students talk about their personal experiences helped me to make my decision in pursuing research. The event was both personal and interactive.”

The Research Fair takes place every fall and is open to new students, or any student who would like to learn more about the vast opportunities in research GSDM has to offer. If you would like to learn more about pre-doctoral research opportunities at GSDM, contact Afaf Hourani at ahourani@bu.edu. If you would like to become involved with the Student Research Group, contact them at gsdmsrg@bu.edu.

HEARING STUDENTS TALK ABOUT THEIR PERSONAL EXPERIENCES HELPED ME TO MAKE MY DECISION IN PURSUING RESEARCH. THE EVENT WAS BOTH PERSONAL AND INTERACTIVE.”

—CORRINE KUNKLE DMD 18
DR. RAUL GARCIA ELECTED VICE PRESIDENT OF AADR FOR 2015-2016

On November 5, 2014, Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM) Professor and Chair of the Department of Health Policy & Health Services Research Dr. Raul Garcia was elected to serve as the 2015-2016 Vice President of the American Association for Dental Research (AADR). Dr. Garcia will assume office at the conclusion of the March 11-14, 2015 AADR Annual Meeting in Boston.

Dr. Garcia has been an active AADR member since he joined in 1977. He is the current North American Regional Counselor for IADR and has served on the Journal of Dental Research Editorial Board as well as the IADR/AADR Publications Committee.

“This is an exciting opportunity for both Dr. Garcia and the Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine to make an impact on the evolving research policies and initiatives of this respected national dental association,” said Associate Dean for Research Dr. Maria Kukuruzinska.

Dr. Garcia’s major research interests focus on health services research and oral epidemiology. He is focused on understanding the causes and consequences of oral health disparities and developing interventions to eliminate them. Dr. Garcia is also dedicated to identifying the relationship of oral conditions to systemic disease and health-related quality of life. His research includes longitudinal studies of oral health in diverse populations and the analysis of treatment outcomes. The work has included randomized controlled trials, observational studies, and community-based participatory research. Studies encompass the areas of oral epidemiology, health services research, and health policy.

“Congratulations to Dr. Garcia on being elected to this prestigious position,” said Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter.

“The American Association for Dental Research is an important organization, and it is certainly exciting that a dedicated and experienced researcher like Dr. Garcia has been elected to its leadership.”

Dr. Garcia holds a Doctor of Dental Medicine, Certificate of Advanced Graduate Study in Periodontology, and a Master of Medical Science in Oral Biology from Harvard University School of Dental Medicine. He has held teaching appointments at Harvard University School of Dental Medicine and Tufts University School of Dental Medicine. He has earned numerous awards and honors throughout his career, including the Career Development Award in Health Services Research from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, American Dental Association Meritorious Award in Geriatric Dental Health Care, NIDR Physician Scientist Award, and most recently the Gies Award for Outstanding Vision from the American Dental Education Association.

The American Association for Dental Research is the largest division of the International Association for Dental Research, a non-profit organization. The AADR has nearly 3,500 members nationwide. Its mission is: to advance research and increase knowledge for the improvement of oral health; to support and represent the oral health research community; and to facilitate the communication and application of research findings.

“This is an exciting opportunity for both Dr. Garcia and the Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine to make an impact on the evolving research policies and initiatives of this respected national dental association.”

— Associate Dean for Research
Maria Kukuruzinska
GSDM STUDENTS ATTEND NEW ENGLAND GLOBAL HEALTH CONFERENCE

On Saturday, January 10, 2015, Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM) students attended the New England Global Health Conference for Medical and Dental Students and Residents. The all-day conference sponsored by Massachusetts Medical Society and held at its headquarters, featured keynote addresses and mini-lectures by area doctors on a variety of global health topics, as well as hands-on skill workshops and networking opportunities.

The morning kicked off with several mini-lectures on pertinent global health topics including the “Global Burden of Disease—An Overview,” given by Endocrinology Specialist at Boston Children’s Hospital Dr. Julia von Oettingen, and “Basic Oral Health,” given by Instructor in Oral Health Policy and Epidemiology at Harvard School of Dental Medicine and Chief of Oral Health Services at Cambridge Health Alliance Dr. Brian Swann.

Following the mini-lectures, Pediatric Residency Assistant Program Director at UMass Memorial Medical Center Dr. Patricia McQuilkin presented the keynote address “Academic Collaboration in Global Health.” In the afternoon, another significant presentation, “Ebola, International Disasters, and How You Can Get Involved” was given by the Director of Disaster Response at Massachusetts General Hospital Center for Global Health Dr. Hilarie Cranmer and Chief of the Division of International Emergency Medicine and Humanitarian Programs at Brigham and Women’s Hospital and Harvard Medical School Dr. Stephanie Kayden.

Later in the day, GSDM students participated in a dental workshop instructed by Harvard School of Dental Medicine’s Assistant Professor in Oral Health Policy and Epidemiology Dr. Brittany Seymour, Instructor in Oral Health Policy and Epidemiology Dr. Brian Swann, and Clinical Instructor in Oral Health Policy and Epidemiology Dr. Donna Hackley, along with Clinical Associate Professor at University of Massachusetts Medical School Dr. Hugh Silk. They also took part in a Medical Ethics workshop presented by Instructor of Medicine at Boston Medical Center Dr. James Hudspeth, along with another workshop of their choice.

In addition to all of the informative lectures, the conference provided a great networking opportunity for the attendees. To promote discussion, students and faculty were encouraged to sit together during lunch. Coffee and dessert in another room allowed for further introductions and free flowing conversation.

“This conference brought together students and residents from all of the medical and dental schools in Massachusetts,” said Associate Dean for Global & Population Health Dr. Michelle Henshaw. “It was very rewarding to see students work across disciplines to identify and find solutions for the many health challenges faced by developing nations. Everyone in attendance, students and faculty alike, left with new skills, knowledge, contacts, and an increased passion for addressing the complex health needs of our global population.”

GSDM students and faculty were: Nicholas Capezio DMD 18, Ayinkeran Gunarajasingam DMD 18, Associate Dean for Global & Population Health Dr. Michelle Henshaw, Guanghui Ling AS 16, Oral Health Promotion Director Ms. Kathy Lituri, and Angela Wu AS 16.
Research Associate Professor in the Department of General Dentistry Dr. Sok-Ja Janket and Group Practice Leader and Assistant Professor in the Departments of General Dentistry and Periodontology Dr. Eleni Kanasi contributed a chapter to a new book titled, *Infection and Autoimmunity, 2nd Edition*, which was published by Elsevier in January 2015.

Their chapter titled, “Oral Infections and Autoimmune Diseases,” discusses the potential causal role oral infections may play in triggering the pathogenesis of autoimmune diseases. Highly associated with genetics and oral infections, autoimmune diseases may be involved in the pathogenic mechanism in genetically susceptible individuals. Many autoimmune diseases manifest in the oral cavity, and while dentists are familiar with identifying and managing the symptoms, looking at the oral infection as the causative factor is a new concept. The chapter was co-authored by Dr. Alison Baird, a professor at the SUNY Downstate Medical Center. Dr. Baird is a neurologist and longtime collaborator with Dr. Janket.

The pathogenesis of autoimmune diseases involves the development of naïve T-cells into Th17 cells and leads to disease with the help of the multiple transcription factors and cytokines also expressed in oral infections. The chapter describes the molecular biology of oral infections in the framework of autoimmune pathogenesis and provides evidence of a causal relationship between oral infections and various autoimmune diseases including atherosclerosis, rheumatoid arthritis, systemic lupus erythematosus, multiple sclerosis, antiphospholipid syndrome, Sjögren’s syndrome, and Crohn’s disease.

Dr. Janket was invited to write this chapter by the president of the Congress, Dr. Yehuda Shoenfeld, at the 9th International Congress on Autoimmunity last spring, after giving a well-received presentation on how salivary immunoglobulin can predict autoimmune diseases such as type 1 Diabetes. Animal modeling is a major component of the research to elucidate the pathogenesis of complex diseases like autoimmune diseases, and Dr. Janket’s expertise as an epidemiologist is essential in order to translate the results from animal and in vitro models to human populations.

Drs. Janket and Kanasi are thrilled to have their work published in such a highly regarded textbook on the interactions between infectious agents and autoimmunity. “It is great honor to be included in this textbook with so many accomplished colleagues,” said Dr. Janket.

If anyone is interested in picking up a copy of the book, contact Dr. Sok-Ja Janket at skjanket@bu.edu.

---

**STUDENTS PROMOTE AWARENESS OF HIV ORAL HEALTH ISSUES AT YANKEE DENTAL CONGRESS**

From January 29 to January 31, 2015, students from Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM) volunteered at the HIV Dental Work Group booth at the 2015 Yankee Dental Congress (YDC). They joined students from Boston-area dental and dental hygiene schools as well as staff from GSDM and the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) to provide information to visitors about HIV and oral health.

The HIV Dental Work Group is part of the BPHC AIDS/HIV Ombudsperson Program, a dental program designed to facilitate access to oral health care for people living with HIV/AIDS. The program offers education, dental referrals, and advocacy for people with HIV/AIDS. In addition, the HIV Dental Work Group strives to provide accurate information to dental professionals about HIV/AIDS and how it impacts oral health. It also gives students an opportunity to learn more about issues related to HIV/AIDS. This marked the HIV Work Group’s 17th year of providing an educational exhibit on HIV/AIDS oral health issues and infection control at YDC.

Volunteers handed out information packets, talked to visitors, and assisted in collecting consumables to donate to programs for people living with HIV/AIDS in Massachusetts. Many of the GSDM volunteers are from the student chapter of the American Association of Public Health Dentistry (AAPHD), who helped organize the effort.

Oral Health Promotion Director Ms. Kathy Lituri said, “The students had a great on-site experience and left knowing a little more about HIV and oral health. They were able to spend time with people living with HIV/AIDS, and learn firsthand about the oral health issues they encounter. Thank you for all of your efforts.”

Volunteers were: Caroline Adams DMD 18, Nicolas Branshaw DMD 16, Nicholas Capezio DMD 18, McAllister Castelaz DMD 17 (AAPHD), Setu Choksi DMD 16, Shelby Curtis DMD 16 (AAPHD), Brittany Dacier CAS 15, Sanjay Kataria DMD 16, Anna Komnatnaya DMD 16 (AAPHD), Andrea Lam DMD 16 (AAPHD), Hyunah Lee DMD 16 (AAPHD), Oral Health Promotion Director Ms. Kathy Lituri, Siddhi Mehta AS 16 (AAPHD), Michelle Prieto DMD 16, Hilary Reiter DMD 16, and Siavash Golaby Sanajany DMD 15.
In February of 2015, Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine Clinical Assistant Professor and Group Practice Leader in the Department of General Dentistry Dr. David Dano visited the White House through his involvement with the Alpha Omega International Dental Fraternity, the oldest Jewish dental and medical organization in the world. In response to Vice President Joe Biden's call to action to help Holocaust survivors—at least 25 percent of which are living in poverty in the US—the organization partnered with Henry Schein, Inc., a worldwide distributor of dental and medical supplies, to launch the Alpha Omega-Henry Schein Cares Holocaust Survivors Oral Health Program. The three-year pilot initiative will provide free dental care to survivors who’ve been identified as economically vulnerable by social services. Currently, Dano is the Alpha Omega Faculty Advisor for Boston University, a board member of Alpha Omega International, and the Young Alumni Director. With three dental schools in Boston, the city’s Alpha Omega chapter is strong. Now, Dano will also be a Boston Ambassador to the Alpha Omega-Henry Schein Cares Holocaust Survivors Oral Health Program along with Murray Miller ORTHO 83. Together, they will serve as liaisons between social services and volunteer dentists. During the first year of the program, 20 to 30 Boston-area Holocaust survivors in need will receive pro-bono dental care, while 250 to 300 will benefit nationwide.

“Alpha Omega embraces the spirit of Tikkun Olam, or healing the world through charitable endeavors,” said Dano. “By being part of Alpha Omega, each of us has the ability to make a real difference in our everyday practice, our community and our profession. The Alpha Omega-Henry Schein Cares Holocaust Survivors Oral Health Program is such a worthy cause; we are hoping that more dentists will join us in improving the function and quality of life of those in need.”

“I’m so proud that Drs. Dano and Miller are Boston Ambassadors to the Alpha Omega-Henry Schein Cares Holocaust Survivors Oral Health Program,” said Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter. “The program’s mission is very admirable and I hope the pilot year is a great success.”

At the White House gathering, the discussion revolved around how the program will proceed in the nine pilot cities. International President of Alpha Omega International Dental Fraternity Dr. Avi Wurman, Alpha Omega city ambassadors, and Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of Henry Schein, Inc. Stanley Bergman were joined by government officials including Special Envoy for US Holocaust Survivor Services Aviva Sufian, Special Assistant to the President and Director of the Office of Social Innovation and Civic Participation in the Domestic Policy Council Jonathan Greenblatt, and Director of Outreach of the National Security Council Matt Nosanchuk.

If you are interested in volunteering, contact Dr. Dano by email at danod@bu.edu. For further information about Alpha Omega or the Alpha Omega-Henry Schein Cares Holocaust Survivors Oral Health Program, call Dr. Murray Miller at 617-527-5965 or visit www.AO.org.
GSDM DEBATE TEAM TAKES HOME THE WIN

On Saturday, January 31, 2015, the Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM) American Student Dental Association (ASDA) Student Debate Team won the Sixth Annual ASDA District 1 Dental Student Debate, held for the first time at the Yankee Dental Congress (YDC).

Besides GSDM, the schools represented in District 1 ASDA included Harvard University School of Dental Medicine, Tufts University School of Dental Medicine, University of Connecticut School of Dental Medicine, and University of New England College of Dental Medicine. This marked the first year that the Debate was held during the YDC and all five District 1 dental schools competed in the event.

With over 500 in attendance, the GSDM Debate Team, comprised of students John Barrett DMD 17 and Rushil Dang AS15, took home the first place trophy after defeating the University of New England in the final round of the debate. The decision was close in a debate about whether or not dental schools have a responsibility to train students in subjects beyond clinical education, such as becoming future dental educators or researchers.

The trophy was presented to the winning GSDM team by American Dental Association President Maxine Feinberg.

The Dental Student Debate—started by ASDA six years ago—was sponsored by Crest Oral-B, Eastern Dental Insurance Company, and Massachusetts Dental Society. This year the debate was moved, along with YDC Student Night, to Saturday during the YDC. The schedule change enabled students to have a dedicated time to attend the YDC, where they visited the exhibits and participated in student activities. At the Dental Student Debate, representatives of the ADA and New England state constituent dental societies were on-hand to answer students’ questions about their careers after dental school. A keynote address was also given by ADA Dr. Jonathan Shenkin, Clinical Associate Professor in the Department of Health Policy & Health Sciences Research and Pediatric Dentistry.

Students then cheered on their classmates during the debate, and afterwards, enjoyed the annual Yankee Student Reception that featured light appetizers, drinks and a DJ.

“Congratulations John and Rushil for doing such an outstanding job in representing our School,” said Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter. “I’m also very proud of the members of our ASDA Chapter who worked tirelessly in helping to organize this year’s debate, and all of our students who came out to support the GSDM Debate Team.”

GSDM EXHIBITS AT 40TH ANNUAL YANKEE DENTAL CONGRESS

From January 28 to February 1, 2015, the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center was abuzz with visitors to the 40th annual Yankee Dental Congress (YDC), the largest dental meeting in New England. The convention drew nearly 27,000 dental professionals from around the country, and featured more than 300 dental continuing education courses, lectures and events. Representatives of Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM) joined the more than 450 exhibitors in the center which showcased the latest dental products and technologies, along with continuing education programs.

At the conference, a number of GSDM students presented posters during the research poster session. Student presentations in the pre-doctoral category included Sana Alrejaye AS 15 with her poster titled “Oral Health Related Quality of Life and Reasons for Orthodontic Treatment in Adults” and Marium Qureshi AS 15 and Andrea Lam DMD 16 with their poster titled “Pathogenesis of Head and Neck Cancer and the Preventive Strategy.”

Banday’s research partners were Dr. Judith Jones, Assistant Dean for Faculty Development and Professor in the Department of General Dentistry, Dr. Martha Neely DMD 14, Dr. Raffi Miller, Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of General Dentistry, and Systems Analyst Sharron Rich.

Lam and Qureshi’s research partners were Dr. Sok-Ja Banday, Research Associate Professor in the Department of General Dentistry and Ms. Melissa Seif.

In the post-doctoral category, student presentations included first year Geriatric Dental Medicine Fellow in the Department of General Dentistry Dr. Annetty Soto with her poster titled “An Exploration of Medical Clinicians’ Attitudes and Practices Towards Oral Health in Older Adults” and Najla Alrejaye ORTHO 16 with her poster titled “Torsional Strength of Zirconia Brackets Fabricated in Extremely Low Profile.”

Soto’s research partners were Dr. Laura Kaufman, Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of General Dentistry and Emily Abrams, former Administrative Assistant in the Geriatrics Education Office.

Alrejaye’s research partners were Dr. Russell Giordano, Associate Professor in the Department of Restorative Sciences & Biomaterials and Dr. Richard Pober, Research Associate Professor in the Department of Restorative Sciences & Biomaterials.

Over the three-day conference, over 730 people visited the GSDM booth, including alumni, students, faculty and staff.

(1-7) Dean Hutter, Rushil Dang AS15, John Barrett DMD 17 and Dr. Joseph Calabrese show off the winning trophy.
The booth featured the always popular alumni lounge, a place for alums to sit, relax and enjoy refreshments. A video featuring digital dentistry at GSDM was also playing in the lounge providing visitors an opportunity to learn about the innovative clinical and curriculum changes happening at GSDM. “I’m always excited to see the alums who stop by year after year and help make our booth so much fun,” said Director of Alumni Relations & Annual Giving Ms. Stacey McNamee.

In addition, representatives of the Continuing Education (CE) department at GSDM were present on the exhibit floor. “Attending Yankee Dental Congress was very beneficial for CE. We had the opportunity to promote our Continuing Education program and conduct a short survey,” said Business Manager of Continuing Education Ms. Stephanie Grignet. The survey gauged what kind of courses dentists, hygienists, dental assistants, and practice managers are looking for and what factors are important to them when they take continuing education courses. “We plan to incorporate the results into our future course offerings,” she said.

In addition, members of the CE department utilized the conference to learn more about the dental market, and meet potential speakers for courses. They also built relationships with dental companies and local dental associations, along with GSDM alumni.

GSDM faculty and alumni played a large role in organizing and arranging this year’s YDC, including Dr. Carol McManama who served as the YDC Program Co-Chair. GSDM officers and volunteers included: Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of General Dentistry Dr. Pelly Chang; Mark Doherty Jr. ENDO 05; Deedee Gurin DMD 97; Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of General Dentistry Dr. Thomas Hawley; Dennis Jodoin DMD 95 PERIO 98; Assistant Dean for Faculty Development Dr. Judith Jones; Adjunct Clinical Instructor in the Department of General Dentistry Dr. Suneel Kandru; Iman Labib DMD 96 ENDO 01 MS 04; Clinical Instructor in the Department of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery Dr. David Lustbader; Professor in the Department of General Dentistry Dr. Carl McManama; Robert Moreau DMD 92; Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of General Dentistry Dr. Frank Schiano; Clinical Professor in the Department of General Dentistry Dr. Ronni Schnell; Adjunct Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of General Dentistry Dr. Richard Short; and Howard Zolot PERIO 85.

Courses were also given by: Clinical Associate Professor in the Department of General Dentistry Dr. Joseph Calabrese; Clinical Associate Professor in the Department of General Dentistry Dr. Neal Fleisher; Associate Professor in the Department of General Dentistry Dr. Anita Gohel; Clinical Associate Professor in the Department of General Dentistry Dr. Frederick Hains; Dr. Thomas Hawley; Professor in the Department of Health Policy & Health Services Research Dr. Michelle Henshaw; Dr. Judith Jones; Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of General Dentistry Dr. Laura Kaufman; Professor in the Department of General Dentistry Dr. Celeste Kong; Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of General Dentistry Dr. Sheldon Itzkowitz; Dr. David Lustbader; and Dental Radiology Technologist Ms. Mary Ellen Sholes.
STUDENT RESEARCH GROUP HOSTS JOURNAL CLUB ON HPV AND ORAL CANCER

On Friday, January 30, 2015 the Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine Student Research Group (SRG) hosted their first Journal Club meeting of the academic year. The meeting discussed a paper entitled “Do high-risk human papillomaviruses cause oral cavity squamous cell carcinoma?” which was published in the December 2014 issue of Oral Oncology. This article reviews published data which examines the relationship between high-risk human papillomaviruses (HR-HPV) and oral cavity squamous cell carcinoma.

Head and neck cancer ranks as one of the most prevalent cancers worldwide, and is associated with high morbidity and mortality, with limited treatment options. HPV has been determined as a driving etiologic factor in certain kinds of head and neck cancers such as oropharyngeal cancer; yet the authors of this article propose that only a small fraction of cancers in the oral cavity seem to be HPV-related. The article highlighted several relevant factors to consider when evaluating assumed HPV-induced oral cavity cancers, and also discussed current theories as to why HPV-induced cancers are more likely to develop in the oropharynx. With HPV status being an important factor in terms of cancer treatment and patient care, it has become one of the most significant and relevant topics in oral health research.

Assistant Director of Pre-doctoral Research Afaf Hourani welcomed the group, many of whom participated as a part of their Intensive Research Elective Course. Associate Professor and Director of Clinical Oral Pathology in the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Dr. Vikki Noonan opened the meeting with a brief presentation on some of her clinical experiences in identifying and diagnosing dysplasia and pre-malignant lesions in HPV positive patients. The article was then summarized and evaluated in a presentation given by SRG Vice President Mohamed Bayoumy DMD 16. The students enjoyed pizza and beverages while listening to an overview of the article given by Bayoumy, who then opened the floor for discussion. Dr. Noonan helped proctor the discussion and fielded questions from the group, lending her expertise as an oral pathologist to the conversation. The group explored topics such as what oral lesions look like and how they are screened for HPV, the different and more aggressive types of HPV, and what this means in terms of treatment and follow-up care for dental patients.

DRS. MEHRA AND CHIGURUPATI RECEIVE PRESTIGIOUS GRANT

On February 6, 2015 Associate Professor and Chair of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery at Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM) Dr. Pushkar Mehra and Associate Professor and Director of Research in the department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery at GSDM Dr. Radhika Chigurupati have been awarded a $75,000 research award from the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Foundation. The award was given for their clinical research, titled “A Prospective Observational Study to Assess Clinical and Radiological Outcomes of Orthognathic Surgery in Individuals with Temporomandibular Disorders.”

Drs. Pushkar Mehra and Radhika Chigurupati

Drs. Mehra and Chigurupati’s study aims to correlate temporomandibular joint (TMJ) dysfunction symptoms with MRI findings in patients with dentoskeletal deformities and also evaluate TMJ anatomic and morphological changes during various phases of combined surgical-orthodontic treatment. At the completion of this study, the researchers hope to be able to develop a better understanding of the effects of orthognathic surgery on clinical TMJ symptoms and anatomic TMJ structures.

“In research, asking the right questions makes all the difference,” said Dr. Chigurupati.

The focus of the OMS Foundation is supporting research and education to advance the specialty of oral and maxillofacial surgery. Originally incorporated in 1959, it is dedicated to advancing the long-term development, health, and well-being of the specialty and the public it serves through financial support of research and education consistent with the goals of the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons.

“Congratulations to Dr. Mehra and Dr. Chigurupati on their award-winning research. It is critical that our faculty continue to contribute new knowledge to the profession and I am very proud of their efforts in this study,” said Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter.
GSDM HOSTS THE 2015 JAY SIEBERT TRI-SCHOOL SYMPOSIUM

Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM) hosted the 2015 Jay Siebert Tri-School Symposium on April 24 and 25 at the Trustee Ballroom on Silber Way. Post-doctoral residents from GSDM, New York University College of Dentistry (NYU), and the University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine (UPenn) presented a wide variety of research related to periodontics and implant dentistry.


“The Tri-School Symposium is an excellent opportunity for our periodontic and prosthodontic residents to learn about dental research that is taking place at NYU and UPenn. It is also a great opportunity to network with their peers at these schools,” said Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter. “The research presented by the residents this year was outstanding.”

“It was a very successful tri-school meeting involving the periodontal residents from the three Universities,” said Chair of Periodontology Dr. Serge Dibart. “It also was an opportunity to showcase the cutting edge treatment options that are offered at GSDM by the periodontology residents involved in research.”

This year’s sponsors were Ace Surgical Supply, Acteon North America, Hu-Friedy, Nobel Biocare, and Straumann.

OMS RESIDENT WINS MULTIPLE AWARDS

Varun Arya DMD 14 OMFS 17 has made Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM) and the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery (OMS) proud by recently winning two separate, highly-competitive awards. In December 2014, Dr. Arya was the recipient of the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons Philip J. Boyne Memorial Scholarship, and in January 2015, Dr. Arya received the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery National Insurance Company (OMSNIC) educational grant award.

Each year, select residents receive the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons Philip J. Boyne Memorial Scholarship based on academic excellence and their contribution to research in the field of oral and maxillofacial surgery. Dr. Arya’s research during his residency training is focused on temporomandibular joint and orthognathic surgery. He has been mentored by Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery Dr. Pushkar Mehra.

As part of the scholarship, Dr. Arya received financial support from Geistlich Biomaterials to attend the 2014 AAOMS Dental Implant Conference held in Chicago, Illinois, from December 4–6, 2014.

“This was a very rewarding experience. It provided me with an exceptional educational opportunity on a high-level platform to expand my knowledge and understanding about diagnosis and treatment planning relative to dental implant surgery,” said Dr. Arya.

In January 2015, Dr. Arya received the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery National Insurance Company (OMSNIC) educational grant award for his case submission “Lesion Associated with Disturbance in Tooth Eruption.” Cases submitted to OMSNIC by oral and maxillofacial surgery residents, faculty, and clinicians are considered by the OMSNICase Review Committee. The surgical case presented by Dr. Arya demonstrated successful treatment of a 13-year-old patient who had a benign tumor of the jaw, which was successfully removed by Dr. Arya and Associate Professor in the Department of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery Dr. Radhika Chigurupati.

OMSNICase, the collection of selected cases, provides learning opportunities in a variety of settings including OMS teaching seminars, case presentations, case discussions, and resident rounds. They also serve as study tools for board examinations. Dr. Arya’s case was published on OMSNIC’s website, and thanks to his efforts, the Boston University OMS residency program is receiving an unrestricted educational grant of $1,000 from OMSNIC.

“Dr. Arya has made all of us at GSDM proud! Despite having very heavy clinical responsibilities, he has managed to successfully participate in clinical research and extracurricular activities,” said Dr. Mehra. “Both of these awards are highly competitive at a national level and I congratulate him on these achievements.”

“Congratulations to Dr. Arya for his impressive accomplishments,” said Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter. “I’m also very pleased with the support Dr. Mehra and the Department of OMFS provided in support of Dr. Arya’s excellence in research and clinical care.”

GSDM Periodontology Residents with Dr. Serge Dibart and Dr. Gail McCausland
INTERNATIONAL EXTERNSHIP TAKES GSDM STUDENTS TO GUATEMALA

From January 8–19 and 15–26, 2015, two groups of students and faculty from Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM) travelled to Poptún, Guatemala. Set in the rural foothills of the Maya Mountains, this small agricultural town was the location of their international elective externship trip, directed by the non-profit organization Liga International. Also known as “The Flying Doctors of Mercy,” the organization brings volunteers to impoverished areas, such as Poptún, to provide free health care to the community. Since more than half of Guatemala’s population is living in poverty, and it has one of the highest malnutrition rates in the world, the country’s citizens are in dire need of dental care.

Following their immersion into Guatemalan culture, a small bus drove the crew seven hours northeast to Poptún, a rural town located in a humid rainforest region where the temperature ranged from 60 to 80 degrees fahrenheit. There, a makeshift dental clinic was set up in the back classrooms of a church—one room was used for operative procedures and another for oral surgery. Tools consisted of two high-speed hand pieces—one with a water spray—and a couple of air water syringes. In addition, there was a waiting area outside, an area for triage, and another room for steam sterilization. Poor lighting and an absence of suction devices posed a challenge for procedures. “It was good to learn about how treatment plans needed to differ according to the people, their lifestyles, and what they have available to them,” said Emma Amal Lattouf DMD 15. “With such limited means we had to change the way we are trained to think, in order to prolong and improve the health of their teeth.”

Following their immersion into Guatemalan culture, a small group of students and faculty from Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM) travelled to Poptún, Guatemala. Set in the rural foothills of the Maya Mountains, this small agricultural town was the location of their international elective externship trip, directed by the non-profit organization Liga International. Also known as “The Flying Doctors of Mercy,” the organization brings volunteers to impoverished areas, such as Poptún, to provide free health care to the community. Since more than half of Guatemala’s population is living in poverty, and it has one of the highest malnutrition rates in the world, the country’s citizens are in dire need of dental care.

After landing in Guatemala City, the volunteer group spent the first three days in Antigua. This former capital city in the central highlands is known for its Spanish Baroque-influenced architecture and ruins of colonial churches. “The first few days in Antigua were the perfect welcome to Guatemala. It was a beautiful city to explore and we were able to spend time getting to know each other before starting our work,” said Linda Linsinbigler DMD 15. “We ate the local cuisine, took a guided tour of the city, and hiked the Pacaya volcano.”

“THIS EXPERIENCE HAS TAUGHT ME TO THINK ON MY FEET AND WORK IN SUBOPTIMAL CONDITIONS.”

—LINDA LINSINBIGLER DMD 15
severely broken down and carious teeth and that most of the operative restorations were bulls-eye lesions and really deep occlusal caries.

“I did 83 extractions—this doubled my experience,” said Andrew Soule-Hinds DMD 15, who reported that his group saw 286 cases, consisting of about 400 extractions and about 100 fillings. “Working with Dr. [Thomas] Kilgore was amazing; I learned a tremendous amount.”

Josh Williams DMD 15 echoed this sentiment. “It was amazing to work one-on-one with Dr. Kilgore who gave me so much advice and help beyond what I could have received at school,” he said.

In general, Linsinbigler felt that patient education should be a larger part of the mission trip in order to make a bigger difference in the lives of the community members. “Education is the most important step in achieving optimal oral health,” she said. “If a patient doesn’t understand why oral hygiene is important, and how oral health is connected to overall health, the patient will not participate in oral hygiene practices.”

Following Poptún, the groups got a further taste of Guatemalan culture with a two-night stay in Flores, a town of pastel-colored buildings located on an island on Lake Petén Itzá. On a day-trip to the popular destination of Tikal, they explored the ancient Mayan ruins featuring five pyramids that soar above the jungle floor.

As the students now reflect on their time in a land so vastly different from the world of GSDM, they concur that it was a very worthwhile externship. “I would recommend it to any student who wants more experience, and is ok ‘roughing-it’ a little bit,” said Soule-Hinds. Williams plans on taking many more mission trips during his dental career, and Linsinbigler appreciated the opportunity to both treat patients in the clinic and learn about the country.

“I would 100% recommend this trip to a third-year student,” she said. “I really learned a lot and this experience has helped to shape me into a better clinician. It was so rewarding to provide a service to those who would otherwise not be able to receive dental treatment.”

“I’m very pleased that many students, along with alumni, faculty and staff, participated in this exceptional externship to provide dental care to those in need,” said Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter.

Students and faculty on the January 8–19 service mission were: Director of Global Initiatives in the Department of Global & Population Health Kathy Held, Professor in the Department of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery Dr. Thomas Kilgore, Jasnoor Mann DMD 15, Andrew Soule-Hinds DMD 15, Anne Tran DMD 15, and Josh Williams DMD 15.

Students and alumni on the January 15–26 service mission were: Kevin Acone DMD 07, Ingy Alhelawe DMD 15, Christina Donnelly DMD 13, Justine Karanian DMD 15, Amal Lattouf DMD 15, and Linda Linsinbigler DMD 15.
**DR. INNA AFASIZHEVA AWARDED MORE THAN $2 MILLION FOR TRYPANOSOMA BRUCEI RESEARCH**

In January of 2015, Dr. Inna Afasizheva, Assistant Professor in the Department of Molecular & Cell Biology at Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM), was awarded a National Institutes of Health (NIH) grant of more than two million dollars. The grant, titled “Repeat-containing RNA Binding Proteins of Trypanosomes,” focuses on her work with the unicellular parasite Trypanosoma brucei, which is known to cause Human African Trypanosomosis (HAT) or African sleeping sickness. According to Dr. Afasizheva, HAT affects both people and animals, and occurs in countries covering approximately one-third of Africa’s total land area. This aggressive disease threatens an estimated 60 million people and is considered one of the biggest impediments to agricultural development in Africa. The infection in humans leads to rapid weight loss, coma, and ultimately death. HAT belongs to a group of neglected diseases which are prevalent in the low-income populations of Africa.

Trypanosomes are ancient organisms that have been around for more than 300 million years. They are important to research because of their biomedical significance and also as a source of evolutionarily preserved molecular mechanisms. Dr. Afasizheva’s particular area of interest is in RNA processing in mitochondria of Trypanosoma brucei, which is extremely divergent from similar processes in humans and may represent potential for therapeutic intervention. The best studied part of RNA processing is the mechanism of uridine insertion/deletion in RNA editing. Discovered in 1986, this mechanism initially seemed to contradict the central belief of molecular biology that a gene provides all necessary information for protein synthesis. In the mitochondria of trypanosomes, messenger RNAs from most genes require major post-transcriptional sequence alterations to acquire a protein-coding capacity.

Over the last 15 years, Dr. Afasizheva has been involved in exciting discoveries in RNA editing, processing, and translation. Most recently, she and her colleagues discovered a large family of RNA binding proteins called Pentatricopeptide proteins (PPR). Her most recent proposal focused on PPR proteins, key players in mitochondrial mRNA processing regulation. Among the 40 PPR proteins which have been identified in the trypanosomal genome, Dr. Afasizheva’s research found 20 that are involved in direct interaction with mitochondrial ribosomes. These proteins could serve as sequence specific factors for recognition of fully edited mRNA and loading of the mRNA into the ribosome. Based on previous work and preliminary studies, Dr. Afasizheva proposed that essential but poorly understood pre- and post-editing processes ensure mRNA stability, monitor the completion of RNA editing, and enable mRNA binding to the ribosome for translation.

Dr. Afasizheva is extremely pleased to have received this award, and acknowledged several important contributors to this success. “To begin with, we had substantial startup funds from GSDM which allowed us to quickly set up the operation and start generating data, along with strong departmental and institutional support from Chair of the Department of Molecular & Cell Biology David Levin.” She went on to say, “Just as important were the collaborations we established at Boston University Medical Campus (BUMC). Most of our projects rely on advanced mass spectrometry conducted by the Center for Biomedical Mass Spectrometry led by William Fairfield Warren Distinguished Professor of Biochemistry Catherine Costello, who also supported my grant application. Collaboration with Professor in Computational Biomedicine, Stefano Monti, at Boston University School of Medicine will be absolutely critical for our projects that rely on deep sequencing and bioinformatics analysis.”

Dr. Afasizheva emphasized that it was the excellent reputation, scientific infrastructure and collaborative atmosphere at GSDM and BUMC that helped get this important research off the ground, and she is grateful to all those involved.

“Congratulations to Dr. Afasizheva for this significant achievement,” said Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter. “GSDM is proud to have such an innovative and successful researcher among its faculty.”

---

**GSDM STUDENTS PROVIDE DENTAL CARE IN NICARAGUA**

From February 9–18, 2015, Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM) DMD 15 students Michelle DaRocha, Stephanie Leung, and Keely Matheson traveled to Esteli, Nicaragua to bring dental care to low-income families in the area. Surrounded by the forested mountains in the North Central Highlands, the country’s
third largest city was the site of their international externship, completed in partnership with the non-profit Superemos. Since 1999, the organization has been dedicated to providing Esteli-based education and training programs for deserving families in northern Nicaragua.

Each morning, the students walked 20 minutes from their hostel to the city hospital (Centro de Salud Familiar Leonel Rugama), where a two-room dental clinic provided separate workspaces for general dentistry and oral maxillofacial surgery. Instruments and materials similar to those used in the U.S. were also on hand. “The medical building we worked in was relatively new, well-kept and spacious,” said Matheson. “There were beautiful murals on the walls and overall it was a very nice and calm environment to work in.” Local members of their team consisted of a general dentist, orthodontist, dental student and a university student who aided in translation.

Each day, the group saw 12-20 patients. “About 40 percent of the patients were children and almost all of the adult patients were local workers of the hospital clinic,” said Leung. Patients were triaged, x-rays were taken when necessary, and the dental team switched off to assist each other at the two chairs. Along with providing restorations—several required pulp capping—they performed extractions of non-restorable teeth. With some help, Leung was able to complete her first side-by-side Class II composite restoration.

“The most common cases involved large carious lesions, especially in the young kids which was heartbreaking to see,” said Matheson. This made the students even more determined to teach good oral hygiene practices. “I had one case where I restored a man’s front teeth that had large holes in them from rampant decay, and the difference in the way he smiled before and after the appointment is something I will remember for a long time.”

During the evenings, the students would go to restaurants in Esteli. They spent time outside the hospital with the Nicaraguan dental student and also befriended quite a few locals during their time at the clinic. On the weekend they explored the city and toured the Somoto Canyon.

For all of the students, the externship was a great learning experience both in the amount of dental experience they gained and in the opportunity to experience Nicaraguan culture. For Matheson, the time in Esteli solidified her motivation to continue working internationally and to someday lead a group of students on a similar exchange trip. “I think international externships are something every dental student should experience,” she said. “It really affirms the value of our profession and that even as students we can make a difference.”
UNIVERSITY RETIREMENT DINNER HONORS FORMER FACULTY AND STAFF

On Thursday, March 5, 2015, dedicated employees who reached their end-of-career milestones were honored at the annual Boston University Retirement Dinner in the Arthur G. B. Metcalf Trustee Center on the Charles River Campus. Among the attendees were four recent retirees from Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM) including former Clinical Administration Manager in the 7th Floor Dental Health Center Ms. Julie Lidano, former Administrative Manager for Global and Population Health in the Department of Health Policy & Health Services Research Ms. Sharon Boyle, former Hygienist at the BU Dental Health Center at 930 Commonwealth Avenue Ms. Julie Lidano, and former Research Associate Professor in the Department of Restorative Sciences & Biomaterials Dr. Richard Pober.

The evening began with a cocktail reception followed by a dinner in honor of the retirees. After dinner, President of Boston University Robert A. Brown recognized all of the retirees, thanking them for their hard work and years of service to the University. He then individually called each retiree to the podium, gave them a certificate, and took a photo with them. In closing, President Brown encouraged all of the retirees to keep in touch and attend BU events whenever possible. He said they will always be a part of BU.

Clinical Professor in the Department of Restorative Sciences & Biomaterials Dr. John Ictech-Cassis attended the event, representing Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter. “The event was emotional,” he said. “All of the retirees I spoke with said they were truly thankful to Boston University for everything that was done for both them and their families. They also said they were happy to have contributed to such a prestigious University. To me, that just goes to show what a remarkable place Boston University is, and I’m truly proud to say that I’m a part of it.”

The GSDM retirees honored at the ceremony followed by their years of service were: Ms. Dorothea Abbott (16), Ms. Joann Beer (21), Ms. Sharon Boyle (20), Dr. Matthew Jackson (23), Ms. Julie Lidano (20), Ms. Mary (Meg) Loadholt (15), Dr. Steven Morgano (19), Dr. Richard Pober (19), Dr. Douglas Riis (31), Ms. Shelia Scully (46), Dr. Bianca Sotomayor (23), and Ms. Ann Thompson (16).

GSDM STUDENTS PROVIDE DENTAL CARE IN PANAMA

On January 15, 2015, Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM) students Christopher Chan and Raman Samra (both DMD 15) traveled to Penonomé, Panama, to provide dental care. The trip was sponsored by North East Volunteer Optometric Services for Humanity (NEVOSH), a Rhode Island based organization dedicated to providing health care to those in need around the world. In addition to the dental and optometry volunteers, many other medical professionals and students comprised the NEVOSH group.

Along with Chan and Samra, three GSDM alumni (Christina Thompson DMD 06, Jose Alamo DMD 06, and Frank Casarella DMD 88), a Georgetown School of Dentistry alumnus, a hygienist, and several dental assistants comprised the dental team. With the help of a local rotary club, the clinic was set up at an elementary school—two computer labs provided a functional workspace with ample power sources to run the generator for the makeshift dental operatories. One room featured 12 oral surgery chairs and the other room consisted of two operative chairs and a hygiene chair. “We saw a lot of serious issues. It was like nothing Raman or I had ever seen before.”

DR. ANNETTY SOTO WINS POSTER AWARD AT THE ADEA ANNUAL SESSION AND EXHIBITION

At the 2015 American Dental Education Association (ADEA) Annual Session & Exhibition, Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM) second year Geriatric Dental Medicine Fellow in the Department of General Dentistry Dr. Annette Soto won first place in the ADEA/DENTSPLY International Student Poster Awards, which recognize dental students for outstanding research and innovation. The award-winning poster Dr. Soto presented was titled “An Exploration of Clinicians’ Attitudes and Practices in Oral Health for Older Adults.” This year’s annual session was held from March 7–10, 2015 at the Hynes Convention Center and explored the theme “Igniting Minds Unlocking Potential.”

“The ADEA 2015 Annual Session is a great platform for dental education research,” said Dr. Soto. “The recognition that our project received confirms the need for further academic investigation in the growing field of oral health for older adults.”

Oral health has been identified as one of the top nine indicators of health needing improvement for older adults, according to Healthy People 2020, a government program which sets nationwide health promotion and disease prevention goals. This fact raises a serious question about primary health care professionals who are trained in oral health for older adults.”
giving enough attention to the oral health of older adults during their physical exams. For this reason, Dr. Soto and her colleagues conducted a study with the goal of learning more about the clinicians’ knowledge and practice of oral health care in older adults.

Dr. Soto and her colleagues developed an oral health knowledge and oral health screening practice survey, which was then administered and completed by 27 physicians and nurses in the Section of Geriatrics at Boston Medical Center and Boston University School of Medicine. Seventy-seven percent of the section responded to the survey. Of the respondents, 96 percent agreed on the importance of performing oral health assessments on edentulous patients and 82 percent reported they would change a patient’s medication if it negatively impacted their oral health. Unfortunately, just 22 percent of these clinicians rated themselves as knowledgeable about oral health issues, and 26 percent were confident in their oral health assessment skills.

Dental professionals are faced with the challenge of keeping track of older adult patients who, due to cognitive or physical impairment, tend to discontinue regular dental office visits. The role of a Geriatric Primary Care team is to identify those patients who need regular oral health examinations. The study suggests that medical clinicians treating older adults should include an oral health assessment as part of routine care. Despite the many years of experience of the clinicians in the sample, the survey results suggest a gap in clinicians’ knowledge, confidence, and performance of oral health assessments and referrals.

While the results of this survey showed a few interesting trends, there has been a positive outcome. Dr. Soto and her colleagues will begin conducting in-house trainings for medical providers in the Section of Geriatrics to help establish better practice protocols for oral health care in the routine medical care of geriatric patients. This will help enable medical providers to reduce the barriers in accessing oral health care for older adults and the homebound.

“Dr. Soto’s survey and findings here in the Geriatric Section at Boston Medical Center are eye-opening,” said Director of Geriatric Dental Medicine and Assistant Dean of Students Dr. Joseph Calabrese. He continued, “These findings and the resulting trainings will serve as an important step forward in geriatric oral health care.”

seen before,” said Chan. “It was pretty obvious that it had been a long time, or maybe never, since many of the patients had visited the dentist.”

The dental team was able to see 868 patients ranging from 2 to 80-years-old. “One of the great things about this experience was that we got to see a diverse group of people from the village and city of Penonomé,” said Samra, who felt that the language barrier posed the biggest challenge of the trip. “Thankfully we had a great group of students from a local college that dedicated their free time to help us with translation.”

When not at the clinic, Chan and Samra visited the Panama Canal, the historic quarter of Casco Viejo in Panama City, and a tourist village up in the mountains. “The people of Panama were extremely welcoming,” said Samra. “We were met with open arms everywhere we went.”

After leaving Panama on January 26, 2015, both students looked back at the externship as an eye-opening and rewarding experience. “Seeing so many patients and learning from a great group of dentists—the experience was something I will remember for the rest of my dental career,” said Samra. They both agree they’d like to take part in a similar, future mission trip.

“I’m very proud of Christopher and Raman for their hard work at the clinic in Penonomé,” said Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter. “I’m also very pleased to see our alumni continuing to make time to take part in mission trips after graduation. It is gratifying to know that service to our global community is a commitment that our graduates learn here and take out into the world with them as they enter the profession.”

Dr. Annetty Soto and Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter with the award-winning poster
ADEA ANNUAL SESSION AND EXHIBITION COMES TO BOSTON

The 2015 American Dental Education Association (ADEA) Annual Session & Exhibition was held at the Hynes Convention Center in Boston, Massachusetts, March 7–10, 2015. As always, it provided a forum for ADEA members, other professional colleagues, and industry experts to come together to share knowledge of dentistry and dental education. With the theme “Igniting Minds Unlocking Potential,” the event featured a variety of educational programming sessions, events, member forums, and speakers. From presenting on the symposium stage, to poster presentations, and a tour of the GSDM facilities, members of the GSDM community took part in the session in a variety of ways.

Associate Dean for Academic Affairs Dr. Cataldo Leone and several School of Medicine faculty presented a symposium at the annual meeting on March 9. The presentation, “Igniting Minds through Student Self-directed Group Learning: Integrated Problems Sessions,” described GSDM’s Integrated Problems Sessions (IPS) as a flexible, best-practice technique for student active learning. Through the use of case/problem-based scenarios, student response technology, and critical literature review, IPS challenges students to discover, interpret, and apply new knowledge to their dental practice. Co-presenters were Assistant Professor at the Boston University School of Medicine (BUSM) Dr. Monica Pessina, Assistant Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine at BUSM Dr. Carmen Sarita-Reyes, Professor of Pharmacology in the Department of Pharmacology at BUSM Dr. Carol Walsh, and Assistant Professor in the Department of Anatomy & Neurobiology at BUSM Dr. Elizabeth Whitney. The presentation, which was well attended, had been previously selected as one of only three presentations specially designated as a Chair of the ADEA Board of Directors Symposium.

For two days (March 8–9) during the ADEA meeting, the Exhibit Hall was open and featured more than 90 exhibitor booths, the ADEA TechExpo, and poster presentations by both faculty and students. Among the posters on display was one by Dr. Leone and several of his collaborators titled, “Admissions Criteria for Success in Credential Enhancing Pre-Dental Masters Program,” which described outcomes of the Graduate Medical Sciences (GMS) MS in Oral Health Sciences (OHS) program in promoting students’ admission to dental school. “The primary finding was that student performance in the OHS program positively correlated with their acceptance into dental school, by demonstrating competence in a rigorous graduate curriculum,” said Dr. Leone. His collaborators included Director of the MS Oral Health Sciences Program at BUSM Dr. Theresa Davies, Associate Professor at BUSM Dr. Barbara Schreiber, and MS student Ms. Yoona Choe.

Second year Geriatric Dental Medicine Fellow in the Department of General Dentistry Dr. Annetty Soto took home first place in the ADEA/DENTSPLY International Student Poster Awards which recognizes dental students for outstanding research and innovation. Titled “An Exploration of Clinicians’ Attitudes and Practices in Oral Health for Older Adults,” the findings of her survey study suggest that medical clinicians treating older adults should include an oral health assessment as part of routine care, since older adult patients tend to discontinue regular dental office visits due to cognitive or physical impairment. Yet despite the many years of experience of the clinicians in the sample, the survey results suggest a gap in clinicians’ knowledge, confidence, and performance of oral health assessments and referrals.

In addition to the events at the convention center, attendees of the ADEA Annual Session were given an opportunity to tour GSDM. The tours were led by Assistant Dean of Students Dr. Joseph Calabrese, Chair ad interim in the Department of General Dentistry Dr. Celeste Kong, Associate Director of Student Affairs Ms. Erica Manczuk, and Director of Alumni Relations Ms. Stacey McNamee. During the morning of Saturday, March 7, guests took a tour of GSDM’s 100 East Newton Street building; the Simulation Learning Center, where Assistant Professor in the Department of General Dentistry Dr. Louis Brown was providing a CAD/CAM Digital Dentistry demonstration to members of the AS1 class; and the research lab of Professor in Restorative Sciences & Biomaterials Dr. Laisheng Chou.
BIG TURNOUT FOR TOUR OF GSDM DURING IADR/AADR

This year, the IADR/AADR Annual Meeting took place in Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine’s (GSDM) backyard. To welcome researchers and educators to town, GSDM offered a tour of its research and pre-clinical facilities. The GSDM tour, which took place on Wednesday, March 11, 2015 included a group of more than 50 participants from around the world. The group was given a behind-the-scenes look at the impressive research and learning facilities at GSDM. The tour was organized by Assistant Director for Pre-doctoral Research Ms. Afaf Hourani.

The day began with welcoming remarks from Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter accompanied by an introductory presentation on the School’s history, mission, and infrastructure. Director of Admissions Ms. Linda Reed also gave an overview of GSDM’s programs and information about Admissions.

The tour then kicked off with a visit to the Center for Clinical Research (CCR), located on the first floor of 100 East Newton Street. The mission of the Center is to facilitate collaboration between basic and clinical scientists in order to translate research findings into improved methods of patient care. Clinic Coordinator Ms. Carol Nicholson greeted guests and gave an introduction to the CCR facility.

Upon leaving 100 East Newton Street, the group visited the Department of Molecular & Cell Biology where they were received by Associate Dean for Research Dr. Maria Kukuruzinska and Chair of the Department of Molecular & Cell Biology Dr. David Levin, who provided an overview of the GSDM lab space housed within the Boston University Evans Building. This research space is a state-of-the-art facility which is equipped for advanced research in biochemistry, molecular biology, genetics, and cell biology.

Chair of the Department of Restorative Sciences & Biomaterials Dr. Dan Nathanson then welcomed participants to the research facilities located in the adjacent Housman Medical Research Building. Dr. Nathanson and Research Assistant Professor Dr. Yuwei Fan guided participants through the department and gave an overview of the high caliber science being conducted there.

Additional research space for the Department of Restorative Sciences & Biomaterials can be found on the second floor of the Evans Biomedical Research Center (EBRC) across the hall from the GSDM’s Simulation Learning Center (SLC). This made the EBRC the final stop on the tour. The participants visited the lab of Director of Oral Medicine Dr. Laisheng Chou.

Attendees were then invited into the school’s SLC, which offers aspiring dentists and researchers a technologically advanced, personalized learning experience. Clinical Professor in the Department of General Dentistry Dr. Ronni Schnell demonstrated the various forms of simulative technology utilized by instructors to give students the best virtual patient care experience possible in a nonclinical setting.

“I was delighted to welcome so many visitors from around the world to our school,” said Dr. Kukuruzinska. “It was an excellent opportunity to showcase our research facilities and accomplishments to the wider dental community.”

Dean Hutter and Ms. Afaf Hourani with tour guests
GSDM WELL REPRESENTED AT ANNUAL IADR/AADR MEETING AND GENERAL SESSION

Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM) was well represented at the 93rd General Session & Exhibition of the International Association for Dental Research (IADR) and the 44th annual Meeting & Exhibition of the American Association for Dental Research (AADR). This year the events took place at the Hynes Convention Center in Boston from March 11 to 14, 2015. This prestigious scientific meeting draws attendance from investigators worldwide and consists of four full days of workshops, symposia, oral and poster sessions, high profile keynote speakers, and an exhibition.

The opening ceremony took place on the evening of Wednesday, March 11, and included a special note of recognition for Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter and the other two deans of the Boston Schools of Dental Medicine, and the President of Forsyth Dental Research Institute. Congratulations were also extended during the ceremony to Dr. Raul Garcia, Chair of the Department of Health Policy & Health Services Research, who was elected Vice President of AADR for 2015–2016.

GSDM researchers organized and participated in more than 80 presentations over the course of the event. Faculty and students took part in 18 oral sessions, organized and presented in 4 symposia and a forum, presented 59 posters, and organized 2 lunch & learn programs, as well as a hands-on workshop. A complete list of all GSDM participants in this year’s event can be found on the GSDM Research webpage.

Members of the Research office represented GSDM in the IADR/AADR Exhibition Hall with an exhibition booth showcasing research at the School. The booth was popular with both prospective students and dental researchers interested in learning more about the robust research programs at GSDM.

Not only did GSDM students, residents, faculty, staff, and alumni participate in an impressive number of activities, but several GSDM students received awards for their outstanding work.

Richa Wahi AS 16 was the recipient of the 2015 IADR Lion Dental Research Award for her project titled, “Economic Burden of Head and Neck Cancer: the Need to Screen High Risk Individuals.” Wahi was mentored in this work by Dr. Athanasios Zavras, Professor and Chair of the Department of Pediatric Dentistry.

Dr. Hattanas Kumchai PROS 16, DScD 16 was the recipient of the Frechette Award for his project, “In-vitro Repair of Veneered Zirconia Crowns with Ceramics vs Resins.” Kumchai was mentored by Dr. Dan Nathanson, Professor and Chair of the Department of Restorative Sciences & Biomaterials.

Na Tian PERIO 14 was a finalist for the AADR Johnson & Johnson Healthcare Products Hatton Awards in the Post-doctoral Category for her project, “Salivary Proline-rich Proteins and Gluten: Do Structural Similarities Suggest Immunogenicity in Celiac Disease?” Tian was mentored by Dr. Eva Helmerhorst, Associate Professor in the Department of Molecular & Cell Biology.

GSDM was also honored with the AADR National Student Research Group Award for having the most student abstracts accepted for the 2015 IADR/AADR/CADR General Session.

“I was delighted to see GSDM so well represented at this important event,” said Dean Hutter. “Our high profile is a testament to our commitment to research and I am very proud of our students, faculty, and staff.”

Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter and Minh-Phuong Le DMD 16 with her poster

Hattanas Kumchai PROS 16, DScD 16 with his poster

Richa Wahi AS 16 with her poster

Dr. Hattanas Kumchai PROS 16, DScD 16 with his poster

Na Tian PERIO 14 with her poster

Dr. Hattanas Kumchai PROS 16, DScD 16 with his poster
“Whole Saliva: Dumpster or Treasure Trove,” was the title of a keynote address given by Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM) Professor in the Departments of Periodontology and Molecular & Cell Biology and Henry M. Goldman Distinguished Scientist Dr. Frank Oppenheim. The address was given at the first annual North American Saliva Symposium, hosted by Tufts University School of Dental Medicine on October 26, 2014.

The symposium invited researchers, dentists, physicians and diagnostic manufacturers from across the country to discuss and learn about advances in the field of salivary research. The symposium consisted of three keynote speakers, a poster session, and separate sessions on saliva in the context of dentistry, medicine, pediatrics and industry.

Dr. Oppenheim was invited to give the final keynote address. His presentation discussed his novel research on the usefulness of whole saliva as a diagnostic tool for systemic disease. Whole saliva, Dr. Oppenheim explains, is salivary fluid which has been mixed with other substances found in the oral cavity, such as bacteria, enzymes, epithelial and white blood cells, and gingival fluid. Dr. Oppenheim has found that patient-derived whole saliva samples contain important biomarkers which can be used to identify and monitor the severity of various diseases. This discovery has great implications for developing methods of affordable, accessible, and non-invasive diagnostic testing, and could be offered to patients as an alternative to giving blood samples.

Dr. Oppenheim has been working in collaboration with a team of interdisciplinary researchers including Professor of Chemistry at Tufts University School of Arts and Sciences Dr. David Walt, a fellow keynote speaker at the event. These investigators have developed a miniaturized point-of-care device which will allow clinicians to diagnose and monitor patients using only microliter amounts of saliva. This novel device was discussed in Dr. Walt’s presentation, “Systemic Disease Detection with a Novel Point of Care Device.”

One obstacle to using whole saliva as a diagnostic tool is the difficulty of properly handling and storing the saliva. Whole saliva contains protease—enzymes which break down the cytokines in salivary fluid. Cytokines are molecular messengers which are present in the body when fighting an infection and are indicative of disease. If whole saliva is improperly collected and stored, ongoing proteolysis in the fluid may cause these important molecular biomarkers to be broken down, making them undetectable. A major concern for clinicians using saliva as a diagnostic tool is the dependency on preventing degradation after collection by using appropriate methods for stabilization such as collecting on ice and storing at -80ocelcius. While whole saliva offers numerous attractive benefits as an alternative to blood sample collection, Dr. Oppenheim warns that it is also susceptible to instability as a diagnostic indicator. He is, however, optimistic about improving and standardizing methods to improve the reliability of salivary biomarker exploitation.

“I am so pleased that Dr. Oppenheim was selected as the keynote speaker at this prestigious symposium,” said Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter. “His research in the field of saliva is very important and I am excited about the potential diagnostic implications of his findings.”

While whole saliva offers numerous attractive benefits as an alternative to blood sample collection, Dr. Oppenheim warns that it is also susceptible to instability as a diagnostic indicator.
SCIENTISTS MAKE NO BONES ABOUT FIRST STUDY OF OSTEOCYTES ON SPACE STATION

Researchers may be “excited” to learn that osteocyte cultures headed to the International Space Station this past spring for the first time. With their delivery on the next SpaceX commercial resupply services mission in April of 2015, the Osteocytes and mechano-transduction (Osteo-4) investigation team will analyze the effects of microgravity on this type of bone cell. Understanding these effects will be critical as astronauts plan for future missions that require longer exposure to microgravity, such as to deep space or Mars. The results derived from this study could also have implications for patients on Earth in the treatment of bone disorders related to disuse or immobilization, as well as metabolic diseases such as osteoporosis.

“We are investigating how osteocytes—the most abundant cells in the adult skeleton—both sense and respond to changes in mechanical forces, as achieved aboard the space station,” said National Institutes of Health (NIH) grantee Paola Divieti Pajevic, M.D., Ph.D., principal investigator of the Osteo-4 study and associate professor at the Goldman School of Dental Medicine at Boston University.

Through previous spaceflight studies, some crew members have shown a loss of bone mass after long-duration missions in space. Divieti Pajevic’s team examines the function and behavior of isolated osteocytes in microgravity to determine how they may contribute to the observed decline in crew member bone density.

Osteocytes are the cells that sense mechanical forces, like weight-lifting, as they are applied to the skeleton. They transform these forces into biological responses, signaling other cells to make or remove bone.

“If we can figure out bone loss in the extreme conditions of space, we could figure out how to make more bone or counteract bone loss in astronauts,” said Divieti Pajevic. “This has applications to millions of people on Earth who are affected by osteoporosis and related fractures.”

Divieti Pajevic’s research team uses samples from a specific line of bone cells from mice that mimic human bone osteocytes in gene expression. Gene expression is the process in which information programmed in a gene is used to direct the assembly of a protein molecule, which then helps carry out the instructions given to the cell for its role. The team will try to isolate the genetic signals changed in the cells once exposed to microgravity.

During the Osteo-4 study, the osteocytes are grown in a synthetic, tissue-like, three-dimensional structure and housed inside bioreactors. Bioreactors are containers used to allow the cells to grow in a protected environment. Three trays each house three individual bioreactors, creating a total of nine samples for study on the space station.

Once the samples have arrived in space and are exposed to microgravity, astronauts will freeze the cells at intervals of three, five and seven or eight days. Freezing the osteocytes will stop changes in the cells and allow the researchers to look at the differences at early and later stages of exposure to microgravity. The frozen samples will return to Earth aboard the SpaceX Dragon for further examination.

The Osteo-4 study, sponsored by the NIH’s National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases, the Center for the Advancement of Science in Space and NASA’s Kennedy Space Center, is Divieti Pajevic’s first space station investigation. The project is funded under the Biomedical Research on the International Space Station (BioMed-ISS) initiative, a collaborative effort between NIH and NASA. Osteo-4 also represents the fourth mission for the Osteo series of investigations. Previously known as the Osteoporosis Experiment in Orbit, the research series began as a Canadian Space Agency project on Space Shuttle Discovery in 1998.

“For us, the possibility to use the space station is really important to validate the ground-based model that we use in the lab,” said Divieti Pajevic. “We can envision doing multiple experiments, once we know how the cells behave in microgravity. Then we can try to find different pathways to manipulate the cells.”

With this first osteocyte study in space, scientists may gain a better understanding of these plentiful bone cells’ function. And with the orbiting laboratory planned for operations until at least 2024, this osteocyte project may be the beginning of what’s to come.

*Reprinted with permission. Laura Niles, International Space Station Program Science Office and Public Affairs Office. NASA Johnson Space Center*
Translational research was the theme of the 2015 Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM) Research Retreat which took place on April 13th, 2015, in the Hiebert Lounge. Translational research applies findings from basic science to enhance human health. Along with team science, a translational science approach to research is increasingly important in the development of successful research programs which impact public health and well-being. Faculty from GSDM and the Boston University Medical Campus community presented a variety of topics relevant to translational research, and gave an overview of its successful implementation at Boston University.

The morning began with a poster viewing session followed by opening remarks given by Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter and Associate Dean for Research Dr. Maria Kukuruzinska. Dr. Kukuruzinska then introduced the first speaker Associate Provost for Translational Research and Director of the Boston University Clinical and Translational Science Institute Dr. David M. Center. Dr. Center’s talk, “Performance Enhancing Science,” was followed by four presentations given by GSDM faculty who are engaged in ongoing translational research:

- Professor, Director for the Center of Clinical Research (CCR), and Assistant Dean for Faculty Development Dr. Judith Jones gave a presentation titled “Center for Clinical Research,” which discussed the CCR and how clinical researchers can take advantage of its services.

- Professor and Chair in the Department of Orthodontics & Dentofacial Orthopedics Dr. Leslie Will gave a presentation titled “The Use of Salivary Biomarkers in Addressing Problems in Orthodontics.”

- Professor in the Department of Health Policy & Health Services Research and Director of Behavioral Science Research Dr. Belinda Borrelli presented “Translating Basic Science and Health Behavior Theory to Improve Public Health.”

- Professor and Chair in the Department of Pediatric Dentistry Athanasios Zavras presented “Pharmacogenetics of Head and Neck Adverse Effects.”

Associate Professor of Medicine, Pathology and Bioinformatics and Chief of the Division of Computational Biomedicine in the Department of Medicine at Boston University School of Medicine Dr. Avrum Spira gave the keynote address for the event. His talk titled, “Translating gene expression signatures into personalized approaches to disease management,” discussed how many clinical problems are best solved with a team science approach. Dr. Spira’s research group discovered a gene expression signature which is being used to develop less invasive clinical procedures for diagnosing lung cancer.

The retreat concluded with closing remarks followed by lunch. Assistant Professor of Epidemiology at Boston University School of Public Health Dr. Yvette Cozier won an award for Best Poster, as voted on by attendees. Her project was titled “Self-Reported Oral Health of Middle-Class Black Women in the United States.”

Dr. Maria Kukuruzinska said, “I am very pleased with the quality of the presentations at this year’s Retreat. I feel they truly highlighted the important translational work being conducted within our School and University.”

Translational research applies findings from basic science to enhance human health. Along with team science, a translational science approach to research is increasingly important in the development of successful research programs which impact public health and well-being.
RESEARCH CELEBRATED DURING SCIENCE DAY 2015

On March 19, 2015, members of the Boston University Medical Campus (BUMC) gathered in the Hiebert Lounge for Science Day, an annual event which highlights research at Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM). The day’s agenda included a poster session, a keynote address, oral presentations, lunch, and a vendor fair which took place in the cafeteria at 100 East Newton Street.

The day began with a poster viewing session and lunch followed by opening remarks from Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter. Dean Hutter then introduced this year’s keynote speaker, Chief of the Division of Genetics and Professor of Medicine at Brigham and Women’s Hospital at Harvard Medical School Dr. Richard Maas. His presentation titled “Genome Scale Approaches to Craniofacial Gene Discovery” highlighted the advent of genetic engineering in the field of dental and craniofacial research. He shared his cutting edge work in organogenesis and tissue engineering in the craniofacial region—specifically the tooth and palate. The day’s events concluded with oral presentations, followed by closing remarks by Associate Dean for Research Dr. Maria Kukuruzinska.

This year’s event included 27 poster presentations and 7 oral presentations, covering a wide array of research areas. The projects were presented by students, residents, faculty, and staff who are conducting research at different stages in their educational careers. A panel of faculty judges determined the winners from each category, with an additional award given jointly by the American Dental Association (ADA) and Dentsply.

Dean Hutter was very pleased with the high level of participation in this year’s event. He said, “I am very proud of the research program at GSDM and the significance we place on research scholarship as a part of our mission and educational experience.” He continued, “I would like to extend my congratulations to those students who received awards for their outstanding work and to thank our dedicated faculty mentors.”

The 7 Science Day winners were honored with an awards luncheon on April 2, 2015. GSDM research faculty and students, as well as special guests from across BUMC, were in attendance for the award ceremony.
Day winners were awarded certificates from Dean Hutter and Dr. Kukuruzinska along with a $250 prize.

**GSDM Science Day Awards Winners**

The **Pre-doctoral Student Poster Award** went to Michael Whitcomb DMD 17 and Assistant Professor in the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Dr. Timothy Osborn, for their poster, “The Effects of Preoperative Anxiety on the Amount of Medication Required for Intravenous Sedation.”

The **ADA/Dentsply Award** went to Minh-Phuong Le DMD 16, Faranak Mahjour ORAL BIO 08 (PhD), Chunying An, Professor in the Department of Microbiology and Infectious Diseases at Kobe University in Japan, Dr. Hak Hotta and Associate Professor in the Department of Molecular & Cell Biology Dr. Yoshiyuki Mochida for their poster, “Role of FAM20A in Tooth Development—A Study of Amelogenesis Imperfecta Through Mutations in Mice.”

The **Post-doctoral Student Poster Award** went to Abdulraheem Alwafi DPH 16 and Associate Professor in the Department of Health Policy and Health Services Research Dr. Woosung Sohn for their poster, “Work Condition’s Influence on Oral Health Among US.”

The **Fellow Poster Award** went to postdoctoral associate in the Department of Molecular & Cell Biology Rongjuan Mi, Hans Langara ENDO 17, Aleksander Szymaniak MED 16, Associate Dean for Research Dr. Maria Kukuruzinska and Assistant Professor in the Department of Biochemistry at Boston University School of Medicine (BUSM) Dr. Xarakalab Varelas, for their project, “The Hippo Pathway Effector Yap Regulates Mouse Submandibular Gland Development.”

The **Pre-doctoral Student Oral Presentation Award** went to Nicolas Branshaw DMD 16, Chair of Periodontology Dr. Serge Dibart, and Research Associate Professor in the Department of Periodontology Dr. Erdjan Salih, for their project “Discovery of Major Phosphorylation States in Collagens: their Critical Roles in Fertil Formation and Biomineralization.”

The **Pre-doctoral Student Research Intensive Oral Award** went to John R. Haserick MED 16, Director at the Center for Biomedical Mass Spectrometry at BUSM Dr. Catherine E Costello, and Professor in the Department of Molecular & Cell Biology Dr. John C. Samuelson, for their project, “De Novo Sequencing of the Glycoproteins of Cryptosporidium Parvum.”

The **Post-doctoral Student Oral Award** went to Debora Heller ORAL BIO 16 (PhD), Associate Professor in the Department of Dentistry and Biochemistry at Western University in Canada Dr. Walter Siqueira, Chair of the Department of Microbiology at the Forsyth Center Dr. Bruce Paster, and Professor in the Department of Molecular & Cell Biology Dr. Frank Oppenheim, for their project, “Not-yet-cultivated Bacteria of in vivo Formed Early Dental Biofilm.”

**Other award winners acknowledged included:**

- **Michael Faibish DMD 18**, recipient of the 2015 National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR) Summer Dental Student Award.
- **Nicolas Branshaw DMD 16**, recipient of the Hinman Student Research Symposium Basic Science Research Award for his presentation entitled: “Topographical Distribution of Phosphorylation and Hydroxiproline Sites in Dentin Collagen Type I by Mass Spectrometry.”
- **Mohamed Jamal Ahmed ENDO 16**, recipient of the American Association of Endodontists Foundation Research Grant for his project entitled: “Endodontics: “Directed Differentiation of Human Induced Pluripotent Stem Cells into Pulp Regenerating Progenitors.”
- **Eman Bakhurji PEDO 12 DPH 15**, recipient of the Hinman Student Research Symposium Basic Science Research Award for his presentation entitled: “Topographical Distribution of Phosphorylation and Hydroxiproline Sites in Dentin Collagen Type I by Mass Spectrometry.”
- **Andrew Bernier CAS 15**, recipient of the Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program Faculty Matching Grant. His mentors were Dr. Serge Dibart and Dr. Erdjan Salih.
- **Hattanas Kumchai PROS 16**, recipient of the The Frechette Award for his project: “In-vitro Study of Repairing Veneered Zirconia with CAD/CAM Materials vs. Resin Composite.”
- **Na Tian ORAL BIO 14 (PhD)**, AADR Johnson & Johnson Healthcare Products Hatton Awards post-doctoral Category Finalist, for her project: “Salivary Proline-rich Proteins and Gluten: Do Structural Similarities Suggest Immunogenicity in Celiac Disease?”
STUDENTS SHARE EXPERIENCES FROM CHINA EXTERNSHIP

On Tuesday, April 7, 2015, Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM) DMD 15 students Michelle Darocha, Michael Lee, Derek Leung, and Keely Matheson gave a well-attended presentation to the GSDM community about their three-week International Externship Exchange Program to three world-renowned institutions for Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery (OMFS) located in China.

The September 2014 trip included an exchange program with the Shanghai Jiao Tong University School of Stomatology in Shanghai, The Fourth Military Medical University School of Stomatology in Xi’an, and the Peking University School of Stomatology in Beijing. Dr. Chuan-bin Guo. Keely Matheson summed up her experience by saying, “What drew me to apply for the China externship was the idea of seeing how dentistry is practiced on the other side of the world. What I found was not only an incredible diversity of procedures and techniques, but ultimately a quality of care that resembled our own.” She continued, “With a population of 1.3 billion, and the hospitals we visited being hubs for their respective regions, I expected chaos! But what I found was an incredibly organized system that handled the volume of patients exceedingly well. What really blew me away was the devotion of the students and surgeons to their work and how efficiently they worked together as an operating team.”

“Looking back, there was something magical that happened during those three weeks” said Derek Leung. He continued, “My clinical acumen has been honed, and my colleagues with whom I have shared this journey have become dear friends. It was an adventure that has shaped my character and my career. For that, I am eternally grateful.”

Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter commended the students and the entire faculty and staff from Global & Population Health, “I am pleased that another cohort of students from our School was able to have this unique clinical and cultural experience as we continue to expand the global presence of GSDM.” Dean Hutter also praised Dr. Lee Chou, Dr. Michelle Henshaw and Ms. Elizabeth Anatori for all of their hard work and effort in organizing the China Externship.

HATTANAS KUMCHAI WINS FRECHETTE AWARD AT IADR/AADR ANNUAL MEETING

Hattanas Kumchai, PROS 16, DScD 16, was presented with the International Association for Dental Research (IADR) Arthur Frechette Award at the IADR/AADR (American Association for Dental Research) Annual Meeting in Boston March 11–14, 2015. The Frechette Award is given annually to a young investigator in Prosthodontics who is conducting innovative research in the field. Kumchai gave a ten minute oral presentation on his project, “In-vitro Repair of Veneered Zirconia Crowns with Ceramics vs. Resins,” to a panel of IADR/AADR judges and was named the winner. Kumchai was mentored in this work by Professor and Chair of the Department of Restorative Sciences & Biomaterials Dr. Dan Nathanson. Dr. Patrapan Junatvee ORTHO 15, MSD 15, was an additional collaborator on the project.

This in-vitro study utilized CAD/CAM technology to repair veneered zirconia crowns which had simulated porcelain chipping. Conventionally, a chipped restoration can be repaired by conducting surface treatment on the crown followed by the application of a resin composite. However, this has led to some concern regarding the discoloration of the repaired component. By using CAD/CAM technology, the chipped portion can be made from milling CAD/CAM ceramic material and then cemented back on to the crown. The result of this study found that veneered zirconia crowns repaired with CAD/CAM ceramic materials exhibited significantly higher load-to-failure than veneered crowns repaired with resin composites. Kumchai explains, “In many situations, it is not practical to replace the...
crowns that have porcelain chipping. This in-vitro study looked into the alternative way to address the issue.” While this work is promising, Kumchai believes more extensive research will be needed to study this novel repairing technique.

A manuscript for this study is being prepared and will be submitted in the near future. Kumchai is thrilled to have won the award and is grateful for the support he has received during his time at GSDM. “I’d like to thank Dr. Nathanson for his excellent mentorship and support throughout this research project,” said Kumchai. “I’d also like to thank Dr. Sun and all faculty members involved throughout my four years in the clinical and research program.”

Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter said, “Congratulations to Hattanas on his accomplishment. GSDM could not be more proud of its students and faculty and their continued pursuit of research excellence. I am extremely proud to have another member of the GSDM community as a Frechette award recipient.” Associate Professor and Director of the Department of Restorative Sciences & Biomaterials Dr. Russell Giordano is the 1992 IADR Frechette Award winner.

During his time at GSDM, Kumchai also received the first place award at the American College of Prosthodontists New England Fall Symposium two years in a row. He received this award in 2013 for his project, “Effect of veneering ceramics and methods on failure load of veneered zirconia” and in 2014 for his project, “Surface conditioning of ceramic materials: Effect on bond to brackets.”

---

**DR. NA TIAN, HATTON AWARD FINALIST, PRESENTS RESEARCH ON CELIAC DISEASE AT IADR/AADR MEETING**

During the 2015 International Association for Dental Research (IADR) General Session & Exhibition held at the Hynes Convention Center in Boston, Massachusetts, Dr. Na Tian PhD 14, was nominated as an IADR Hatton Award Finalist for her project, “Salivary Proline-rich Proteins and Gluten: Do Structural Similarities Suggest Immunogenicity in Celiac Disease?” She presented this work during the final poster session of the meeting, which was held on March 14, 2015. Dr. Tian was mentored by Associate Professor in the Department of Molecular & Cell Biology Dr. Eva Helmerhorst.

The focus of Dr. Tian’s research at Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM) was the role of oral bacteria and proteins in the pathogenesis of celiac disease. Celiac disease is a gastrointestinal disorder caused by an immune response to ingested gluten. Dr. Tian and her colleagues have studied the structural similarities between a group of salivary proteins called “proline-rich proteins” and gluten, and explored the potential role of this group of salivary proteins in celiac disease. They also investigated the gluten-degrading activities of resident oral microorganisms.

The study found that Rothia mucilaginosa, a natural microbial inhabitant of the oral cavity, effectively cleaves gluten (gliadin) proteins at regions that are resistant to degradation by mammalian digestive enzymes. This is an important finding since these enzymes could potentially lead to therapeutic applications for the treatment of this autoimmune disease. Dr. Tian was able to demonstrate through her research that Rothia enzymes cleave gluten into small fragments that have strongly reduced immunogenicity as compared to the longer fragments. She also showed that these fragments are much less prone to be deamidated by the enzyme tissue transglutaminase, a key step in the pathomechanism of celiac disease. Overall, the results showed that oral bacteria can have functions that are beneficial to the host, or can be exploited as such. The discovered enzyme activities of Rothia open promising new avenues for developing novel therapies to neutralize the deleterious effects of gluten in celiac disease patients. The results of this study were published in the American Journal of Physiology – Gastrointestinal and Liver Physiology in October 2014 in an article titled, “Effect of Rothia mucilaginosa enzymes on gliadin (gluten) structure, deamidation, and immunogenic epitopes relevant to celiac disease.”

Co-authors on this paper included Research Assistant Professor in the Department of Molecular & Cell Biology Dr. Guoxian Wei, Director of Molecular and Translational Medicine at Mainz University Medical Center in Germany Dr. Detlef Schuppan, and Dr. Helmerhorst.

Dr. Tian also gave a presentation on her work during the 2014 Science Day event, where she won an award in the Post-doctoral Student Oral Presentation category. “Congratulations to Dr. Na Tian on her nomination as a finalist for this award and for her part in this outstanding work,” said Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter. “The impact of this research could prove beneficial for sufferers of this disease.”

---

*Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter and Dr. Na Tian*
RICHA WAHI DMD 16 RECEIVES IADR LION DENTAL RESEARCH AWARD

Richa Wahi DMD 16 was the recipient of the International Association for Dental Research (IADR) Lion Dental Research Award at the IADR/AADR (American Association for Dental Research) General Session & Exhibition held at the Hynes Convention Center in Boston, Massachusetts March 11-14, 2015. This prestigious award recognizes junior researchers who are conducting outstanding and innovative research in basic dental science with the goal of improving public oral health.

Dr. Wahi has been working under the mentorship of GSDM Professor and Chair of the Department of Pediatric Dentistry Dr. Athanasios Zavras, along with students from Columbia University, Boris Ryabtsev, Sarah Stein, and Tong Xiao, to calculate the total financial burden of oral cancer on the economy of the United States. The group also evaluated the economic performance of high risk screening for oral cancer. Dr. Wahi was presented this award at the IADR/AADR annual meeting in Boston on Thursday, March 12, 2015. The award was accompanied by a stipend to help continue her research efforts.

In order to calculate the economic burden of head and neck cancer, Dr. Wahi and the other researchers in her group utilized health care expenditure data and patient epidemiology from previous studies, incidence data from the Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results (SEER) program, and the American Cancer Society. They also used wage data from the World Bank, a United Nations sponsored financial institution which provides loans to developing countries. The economic burden was calculated for each of the four stages of cancer, and stratified by payer status (private vs. public health sector). A cost-effectiveness analysis was then performed using a Markov decision model with various cost and utility input values.

The researchers found that the total financial burden for an annual cohort of head and neck cancer patients in the US is estimated at $4.75 billion. In 2014, private payers were responsible for $3.2 billion, while the US government spends an estimated $855 million on head and neck related health care costs. Total dental rehabilitation expenditures are estimated at almost $610 million, and the annual projected loss of wages due to hospital stay is almost $75 million.

The United States Preventive Services Taskforce does not currently recommend routine population screening for head and neck cancers. While data may not exist for the population at large, Dr. Wahi suggests that a more efficient preventative method may be to target those at highest risk and to enroll them in annual screenings. The early detection of cancer greatly improves chances of survival and preserves quality of life. In addition, the group’s research revealed that the no-screening arm in the Markov model was “dominated,” indicating that a nationwide program screening all high-risk individuals in the US is cost-effective. Thus, an annual cancer screening program for high risk individuals would be a beneficial investment to help alleviate the economic burden of head and neck cancer.

Dr. Zavras was thrilled to have Dr. Wahi’s hard work recognized by the IADR, and hopes that she will continue her research. “As a research assistant, Dr. Wahi has been a major force in moving the research forward,” said Dr. Zavras. “I hope that this achievement will offer her the encouragement and motivation required to consider a full-time academic career devoted to discovery and scientific innovation to improve the public’s oral health.”

DR. LAURA KAUFMAN IS PUBLISHED IN THE JOURNAL OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT EDUCATION

Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of General Dentistry at Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM) Dr. Laura Kaufman was published in the March 2015 edition of The Journal of Physician Assistant Education for her paper “Introduction of an Interprofessional Oral Health Curriculum.” The paper discusses a novel approach to teaching oral health to physician assistant (PA) students, which Dr. Kaufman and her co-authors have been implementing at Boston University School of Medicine (BUSM) for the past year.

“Physician Assistants often work in underserved areas with patients who may not regularly see a dentist,” said Dr. Kaufman. “A PA might be the only medical professional some of these patients see. Our program aims to equip them with the

DR. GUOXIAN WEI IS PUBLISHED IN AMERICAN JOURNAL OF GASTROENTEROLOGY FOR A PAPER ON CELIAC DISEASE

Research Assistant Professor in the Department of Molecular & Cell Biology Dr. Guoxian Wei is first author on a paper titled, “Identification of Pseudolysin (lasB) as an Aciduric Gluten-Degrading Enzyme with High Therapeutic Potential for Celiac Disease,” published in The American Journal of Gastroenterology, which has an impact factor of 9.2. The paper was published online in April of 2015.
Dr. Wei and his colleagues identified microorganisms in human saliva which have potential gluten-degrading properties. This research could result in the development of novel therapeutics for people with Celiac Disease. Additional contributors to this paper included Na Tian ORAL BIO 14 (PhD); Adriana C. Valery PERIO 15; Yi Zhong ORAL BIO 15 (MSCD), ORAL BIO 17 (PhD); Director of the Institute of Translational Immunology at Johannes-Gutenberg-University in Mainz, Germany Dr. Detlef Schuppan; and Associate Professor in the Department of Molecular and Cell Biology Dr. Eva Helmerhorst.

Celiac Disease (CD) is an autoimmune disorder that manifests itself in the small intestine of genetically predisposed individuals. The prevalence of CD is high in many western and developing countries affecting between 0.5% and 2.5% of the population. CD inflammation is triggered by gluten peptides which are abundant in many popular foods, specifically those containing wheat, rye and barley. Gluten peptides are difficult to digest by the major enzymes in the human gastrointestinal tract, resulting in both short and long term health issues.

Dr. Wei and his colleagues evaluated human feces and saliva for the presence of gluten-degrading microorganisms. In this paper, they reported on the discovery, isolation and identification of a gluten-degrading microbial species from feces and the isolation and characterization of a gluten-degrading protease, an enzyme which breaks down peptide bonds in salivary fluid, in human saliva. The protease of interest to Dr. Wei is called LasB protease and is produced by P. aeruginosa, a common type of bacteria. LasB protease is active at pH levels of 2.0–4.0, establishing it as a novel acidic gluten-degrading enzyme. Its cleavage specificity is different from other enzymes that are currently being pursued for clinical development. The low pH activity of these enzymes makes them unique and a promising candidate to aid in gluten digestion during gastric passage. Based on this work, Dr. Wei and his colleagues propose that utilizing LasB protease in luminal enzyme therapy could be a potential therapeutic option for people with CD.

Currently, the only treatment option for CD is a very restrictive gluten-free diet. The work of Dr. Wei and his colleagues could have huge implications for treatment and could greatly benefit the sufferers of this increasingly prevalent disorder. Dr. Wei said, “This investigation is the fruit of our team work. I would like to very much thank the team leader, Dr. Eva Helmerhorst, for her supervision and guidance. And to also give many thanks to Na Tian, Adriana C. Valery, Yi Zhong, and Detlef Schuppan for their important contributions to this study.”

“I would like to congratulate Dr. Wei, Dr. Helmerhorst, and the rest of the team for their groundbreaking research in discovering a treatment for Celiac Disease,” said Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter. “The quality of their work strongly reflects the commitment to excellence in research that the Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine represents.”
MICHAEL FAIBISH RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS NIDCR SUMMER DENTAL STUDENT AWARD

On March 11, 2015, Michael Faibish DMD 18 received word that he had been selected as the recipient of the Summer Dental Student Award from the National Institutes of Health (NIH), an honor given to the top applicants from dental schools across the country. Faibish will be conducting research at the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR) in Bethesda, Maryland from May 26 to July 17, 2015.

The NIDCR Summer Dental Student Award gives talented dental students who are interested in research the opportunity to gain hands-on training and exposure to cutting-edge oral health research. The award is designed to give future oral health professionals a preview of a career in oral health research.

Faibish will be conducting research in an area that is new to him, “I will be working on research pertaining to cell motility/migration and interaction with the extracellular matrix,” Faibish said. His direct mentor will be Research Fellow Dr. Ryan Petrie who works under Principal Investigator and Head of the Cell Biology Section Dr. Kenneth Yamada.

“I have never worked in this field of research before,” said Faibish. “But,” he continued, “I think it is important to open your horizons when it comes to research. I have worked in several different labs with different research interests, which has opened my scope of research knowledge. I am excited to have this opportunity to work in this prestigious lab, which is at the cutting-edge of this field.”

Faibish first became interested in research as an undergraduate student at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. He was required to complete a research project in order to be eligible to graduate. He ended up in a cancer laboratory with a mentor who inspired him to pursue research further.

During his time at the NIDCR, Faibish will spend eight weeks conducting research in Dr. Yamada’s laboratory, attend scientific seminars, and, at the end of the internship, he will present a poster of his research findings at the NIDCR Poster Day.

Dean Hutter and Associate Dean for Research Dr. Maria Kukuruzinska plan to visit Faibish in Bethesda during his eight-week research internship.

Dean Hutter said, “Congratulations to Michael on his receiving this prestigious award. I know he will do extremely well and will represent the School in a very positive light.”

JAE KWAK DMD 16 RECEIVES PIERRE FAUCHARD AWARD

On April 29, 2015, Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter presented Jae Hee Kwak DMD 16 with the Pierre Fauchard Academy’s 2015 Foundation Dental Student Scholarship Award for her leadership and service to Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM). Also present for the ceremony were Associate Dean for Academic Affairs Dr. Cataldo Leone and Assistant Dean of Students Dr. Joseph Calabrese.

Every year, the Pierre Fauchard Academy awards their scholarship to a dental student who has demonstrated the greatest potential for development into an outstanding leader in the dental profession.

This year, Kwak was selected because of her record of leadership throughout her time at GSDM. In addition to regularly volunteering for community events, Kwak is an active member of both the American Student Dental Association and the Asian Student Dental Organization. She has served on student government as the Treasurer of her Class for the last three years, and is the founding member and President of the Pediatric Dentistry Study Club. She hopes to turn the Study Club into a full-fledged student organization in the coming year, which will allow the group more opportunities to volunteer in the community. She is also involved with research, specifically focusing on pediatric head and neck pathology and quality of life issues among pediatric patients resulting from oral health factors.

Kwak is a member of the American Dental Association, American Student Dental Association, International Association for Dental Research, American Association for Dental Research, and the Massachusetts Dental Society.

Dean Hutter said, “Congratulations to Jae for receiving this prestigious award. She is certainly deserving of this honor.”
GALA, GOLDMAN GALA — A JAMES BOND THEMED CELEBRATION

On April 24, 2015, students, faculty, staff and friends of Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSchool) gathered at the Fairmont Copley Plaza Grand Ballroom for the 2015 Goldman Gala where casino games were a feature of the evening. The theme for this year’s annual celebration was Casino Royale, inspired by the 2006 James Bond film.

The evening kicked off with a cocktail reception featuring a signature drink, the Diamond Fizz, a photo booth, and casino games. Upon arrival, guests received $2,000 of play money which could be cashed in for chips to try their luck at the casino tables. Poker, black jack, roulette, craps, and money wheel were the featured games of the evening.

Following the cocktail reception, the 478 guests took their seats in the ballroom for a dinner consisting of Thai infused salmon; grilled chicken breast; or herb risotto. Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter took the stage to welcome everyone and to pay tribute to several special guests in attendance.

He opened the evening by recognizing Megan Sullivan DMD 18, who ran the Boston Marathon on April 20, 2015. Megan had previously participated in the fateful 2013 Boston Marathon, but was unable to finish the race due to the tragic terrorist attack at the finish line. This year, Megan braved the cold temperatures and strong winds, and courageously ran the race again. For the last several hundred yards of the race, Megan was joined by her sister who had been waiting for her at the finish line in 2013 when the bombs went off. They crossed the finish line together. Assistant Dean of Students Dr. Joseph Calabrese escorted Megan to the stage where Dean Hutter presented her with a bouquet of flowers. “Megan, you are truly a wonderful example as to why we as a University and a School of Dental Medicine continue to be Boston Strong,” said Dean Hutter. He then asked the attendees to join him in a moment of silence for those whose lives were tragically taken in the 2013 attack.

Dean Hutter then said to the guests, “The Goldman Gala is truly for our students, especially for those who will graduate and become our newest alumni, and Mrs. Hutter and I are absolutely delighted to once again have the honor and privilege of hosting you this evening. We’re so pleased that we have such a wonderful turnout of students, faculty, staff, and alumni.”

He went on to recognize each of the classes in attendance and asked that students from the graduating DMD, AS, and post-doctoral classes of 2015 stand for a special round of applause.

Dean Hutter welcomed the following special guests: Dean’s Advisory Board Member Dr. Shadi Daher and his wife Dr. Milagros “Millie” Serrano; Dean’s Advisory Board Member Dr. Suneel Kandru; President of the Alumni Association and Dean’s Advisory Board Member Dr. Bing Liu and his wife Mrs. Helen Dong; Chair of the Dean’s Advisory Board Dr. David Lustbader and his wife Mrs. Wendy Lustbader; Dean’s Advisory Board Member Dr. Mina Paul and her husband Mr. Ajay Saini; Immediate Past President of the Alumni Board Dr. Mitch Sabbagh; and Dean’s Advisory Board Member Dr. Ron Weissman and his wife Mrs. Maria Weissman.

He also asked the members of the Goldman Gala Committee, who organized and planned the evening, to stand for a round of applause: Richa Bhatt AS 15, Development & Alumni Coordinator Ms. Leslie Caiola, Assistant Dean of Students Dr. Joseph Calabrese, Christopher Connell DMD 15, Administrative Assistant for Meetings & Events Ms. Diane Dougherty, Andrew Grinsell DMD 17, Marissa Kobewka DMD 15, Pardis Koleini DMD 17, David Lane DMD 16, Emma Lattouf DMD 15, Lauren Liebman DMD 18, Associate Director of Student Affairs Ms. Erica Manczuk, Matthew Mara DMD 16, Keely Matheson DMD 15, Jessica Metcalf DMD 15, Michael Nardi DMD 18, Student Affairs Coordinator Ms. Amy Nelson, Hilary Reiter DMD 16, Amrita Sandhu DMD 15, Azeez Swarup AS 15, and Ryan Vaughn DMD 16. Dean Hutter then made a special acknowledgement of the efforts of Assistant Director of Meetings & Events Mrs. Lindsay McHugh and presented her with a bouquet of flowers.

Dean Hutter then took a moment to acknowledge and celebrate the birthdays of Dean’s Advisory Board Member Dr. Ronald Weissman and his wife Mrs. Maria Weissman, who share an April 24 birthday. They were presented with a large cake as everyone in attendance sang them Happy Birthday.

Dean Hutter took one last opportunity to remind everyone that “what goes on in the photo booths and the Casino, stays in the photo booths and the Casino.”

After dinner and dessert, guests hit the dance floor serenaded by the band Night Rhythm, took casino-themed photos in the photo booth, and tried their luck one more time at the casino tables.
TEACHING ASSISTANTS RECOGNIZED DURING APPRECIATION LUNCH

On May 1, 2015, Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM) teaching assistants (TAs) were recognized during the annual Teaching Assistant Appreciation Lunch. Sixty-nine TAs from three pre-clinical courses joined together in the Dean’s Conference Room for lunch in recognition of their support throughout the year.

Students selected to be TAs are all fourth year DMD and second year Advanced Standing students and must: have an interest in the subject matter; be in good academic standing; have no past or present disciplinary action; and, have a history of cooperation, positive faculty interaction, and time management skills. Individual course directors may have other specific requirements as well.

At the appreciation lunch, Dr. Mark Ferriero spoke highly of his TAs. “My course is much better because of the invaluable support from the TAs. The students in the course love being taught by their peers, and the TAs get a refresher in the subject matter they originally learned to appreciate several years prior.” He also thanked the TAs who assisted in the Pre-clinical Removable Prosthodontics course and read a statement by Director of Pre-clinical Removable Prosthodontics Dr. Ronni Schnell, who was unable to attend the lunch.

Director of Pre-doctoral Endodontics Dr. Jason Zeim also expressed his thanks to the students who assisted in his Pre-clinical Endodontics course. “It was just recently that we added TAs in the Endodontic Pre-clinical Course and I could not be happier,” he said. “The TAs are extremely helpful in all aspects of the course from the initial start and set up to the final summative exam. They are a great benefit to the course as they are knowledgeable, eager, reliable and always supportive.”

Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter called each student up to the front of the room and individually presented each of them with a certificate of participation.


Dean Hutter said, “I wish to express my thanks to each and every Teaching Assistant. Your efforts in support of these pre-clinical courses are truly appreciated and are invaluable to both the course directors and the students you are teaching.”
## CONTINUING EDUCATION COURSE OFFERINGS FALL/WINTER 2015

### SEPTEMBER 2015

**NEW** Lasers in Pediatric Dentistry: Hard and Soft Tissue Applications  
7 CEUs $495  
*This is a hands-on course.*  
Saturday, Sept. 26 9 a.m.–5 p.m.

### OCTOBER 2015

Dental Ceramics Selection for the Restorative Dentist  
3 CEUs $100  
Thursday, Oct. 1 9 a.m.–12 p.m.

Predictably Successful Endodontics:  
1. Root of the problem  
2. Schilder Warm Gutta Percha Vertical Compaction Technique  
14 CEUs $1,400  
This is a hands-on course.  
Friday, Oct. 2 9 a.m.–5 p.m.  
Saturday, Oct. 3 9 a.m.–5 p.m.

Cruise and Learn Canada: Medical Updates for the Dental Practitioner  
9 CEUs $495*  
$395**  
Saturday, Oct. 3-10  TBA

Use of Neurotoxin and Fillers for Cosmetic Improvement  
16 CEUs $1,995  
This is a hands-on course. Limited attendance.  
Monday, Oct. 5 8 a.m.–5 p.m.  
Tuesday, Oct. 6 8 a.m.–5 p.m.

**NEW** Interpretation and Applications of Cone Beam CT Images: Hands-on Workshop  
7 CEUs $295  
Thursday, Oct. 8 8 a.m.–4 p.m.

Infection Control Update 2015  
3 CEUs $95  
Wednesday, Oct. 14 9 a.m.–12 p.m.

Radiology Certification for Dental Auxiliaries:  
MA: 12 CEUs $250  
NH: 16 CEUs $325  
This is a hands-on course.  
Friday, Oct. 16  
Lecture: 8 a.m.–4 p.m.  
Saturday, Oct. 17  
Clinic A: 7:30 a.m.–11:30 a.m.  
Clinical B: 10 a.m.–2 p.m.

Sunday, Oct. 18  
Clinic C: 7:30 a.m.–11:30 a.m.  
Clinical D: 10 a.m.–2 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 24  
Clinic E: 8 a.m.–4 p.m. (NH only)

**NEW** Rehabilitation of The Edentulous Maxilla: Fixed vs. Removable Implant-Supported Prostheses  
6 CEUs $145  
*This is a hands-on course. Limited attendance.*  
Tuesday, Oct. 20 9 a.m.–4 p.m.

Legal Documentation and Record Keeping  
7 CEUs $350  
Thursday, Oct. 22 9 a.m.–5 p.m.

### NOVEMBER 2015

Interdisciplinary Treatment Planning  
14 CEUs $395  
Thursday, Nov. 5 9 a.m.–5 p.m.  
Friday, Nov. 6 9 a.m.–5 p.m.

**NEW** Noise-Induced Hearing Loss in Dentistry: Facts, Concerns, and a Novel Solution  
3 CEUs $95  
Saturday, Nov. 7 10 a.m.–1 p.m.

**NEW** Advanced Techniques in Application of Botulinum Neurotoxin and Dermal Fillers  
16 CEUs $3,195  
Two Days  
Monday, Nov. 9 8 a.m.–5 p.m.  
Tuesday, Nov. 10 8 a.m.–5 p.m.

Smile Design with Additive and Reductive Techniques  
3 CEUs $100  
Friday, Nov. 13 9 a.m.–12 p.m.

**NEW** Implants… When, Why and How: A Hands-On Course  
5 CEUs $245  
This course is a collaboration with Nobel Biocare.  
Monday, Nov. 16 9 a.m.–3 p.m.

Essentials of Piezoelectric Surgery: Precise Cutting with Minimal Morbidity  
3 CEUs $100  
Wednesday, Nov. 18 9 a.m.–12 p.m.

### DECEMBER 2015

**NEW** Do You See What I See? Recognition and Diagnosis of Skeletal and Dental Malocclusion  
4 CEUs $195  
Saturday, Dec. 5 8:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.

---

* dentists  
** hygienists, assistants, office staff

Join our Facebook community at www.facebook.com/bugsdmce

---

FIND FULL COURSE DETAILS ONLINE at www.bu.edu/dental/ce
A First Time Patient: A Lifelong Friend

SOMETIMES THINGS ARE MORE SERIOUS than they first appear. For JoAnne Mulligan, that was just the case. In the fall of 2012, JoAnne—a devoted wife to Joe and mother of two boys—went for a dental cleaning. Her dentist expressed concern about an area on the roof of her mouth. “I barely noticed the bump,” says JoAnne. “I just thought I had burned the roof of my mouth from some food. I never thought it would be cancer.”

After an endodontist biopsied the area and sent the sample to a pathologist, JoAnne was diagnosed with a rare form of sarcoma. JoAnne was no stranger to cancer as she had recently lost a sister to the heartbreaking disease, so it was most important to her and her family that she receive the best care available. “My sister had recently passed away from a different form of cancer,” says JoAnne.
“I know firsthand how vital it is to receive excellent care in order to treat this ugly disease—so we were determined to find it.”

Her pathologist insisted she visit Boston Medical Center and specifically referred her to Andrew Salama, D.D.S., M.D., F.A.C.S., director of the advanced specialty education program in oral and maxillofacial surgery at BMC and assistant professor of oral and maxillofacial surgery at Boston University Goldman School of Dental Medicine. The Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery at BMC—concentrating on the diagnosis and treatment of disease in the head, neck, mouth and jaw regions—is one of the most experienced departments in this area of medicine in the country. Since its inception in the 1930s, the department has remained a pioneer in education, clinical care, research, administration and community service.

Salama—a dually-qualified oral and maxillofacial surgeon—is a leader in this field, bringing a unique dentally-minded perspective to his patient care. “As a patient who had never had any experience at Boston Medical Center, nor knew much about the hospital and its providers, I decided to ask my pathologist why she recommended Dr. Salama,” says JoAnne. “She told me Dr. Salama is the only doctor she would refer family members or patients to.”

Upon meeting Salama, JoAnne understood her pathologist’s enthusiasm. “Something immediately clicked when I met Dr. Salama. We could have gone anywhere and I did obtain a second opinion at another Boston hospital, but I went with my gut and chose Dr. Salama to perform my surgery because I knew it was the right thing to do,”
says JoAnne. “His humbleness drew me to him along with his compassion.”

After many pathologists in the Boston area analyzed JoAnne’s biopsy due to its rare nature, Salama felt it was best to perform surgery to remove the sarcoma. “We wanted to make the right decision about doing the surgery, making sure the tissue removed as part of the biopsy was really indeed tumor and not normal tissue that can actually look like tumor under certain circumstances,” explains Salama.

In February of 2013, JoAnne underwent surgery. Dr. Salama removed the sarcoma, including six front teeth and all the bone above those teeth. “The surgery went very smoothly for JoAnne,” says Salama. “We were able to successfully remove the sarcoma, and create a prosthetic that will serve as her missing teeth and bone.”

As a result of the surgery, JoAnne spent two nights at Boston Medical Center to recover, and in that time got to know the staff. “The nurses and supporting staff are amazing. It really takes a special kind of provider to work at BMC and you see that every day when you’re there—whether you’re spending the night or coming in for a follow-up appointment,” says JoAnne. “They are just so attentive to every need, while being professional and respectful. The quality of care was incomparable.”

And her family agrees. After JoAnne’s experience at BMC, Joe—a veteran marathoner with more than 17 marathons under his belt—decided to run for the 2014 BMC marathon team. “It was the least I could do,” explains Joe. “I wanted to give back. My family wanted to give back. And this seemed fitting.”

Incredibly, Salama was also a member of Boston Medical Center’s 107-person marathon team. Together, the duo raised more than $15,000 for the hospital. “I decided to run the 2014 Boston Marathon for a number of reasons. In the aftermath of the 2013 marathon tragedy, I really felt compelled to publicly support and represent the mission of BMC and the Boston community as a whole,” explains Salama. “When I heard Joe was running, I was so moved by his commitment to BMC, it made it even more compelling to represent the institution.”

Today, JoAnne is doing wonderfully and thanks Salama and his team of caretakers for everything they did for her and her family. “I will always consider Dr. Salama a friend,” concludes JoAnne. “People can’t believe I didn’t crumble during this process. But, I didn’t, because of Dr. Salama and the rest of BMC’s staff. They are the epitome of exceptional care, without exception, and inspire me daily.”

This article originally appeared in the Boston Medical Center newsletter, INSPIRE. Reprinted with gratitude to the Boston Medical Center Development Office.
On a recent sunny June morning Advanced Standing (AS16) student Olga Spivak took a break between classes and made the quick walk from the Boston University Medical Campus to the Dewey Square Farmer’s Market, just across the street from South Station, to help her husband Christopher set up their Fresh Fruit Vinegars by Mange’s stand.

Christopher started Mange in 2012, after learning about cooking with vinegar during his international culinary training that took him from New York to France, then Brazil, Italy, and London until he finally found his way to Russia, where he met Olga. He remained there until she completed her dental studies and the two moved to Boston in 2014 so that she could attend GSDM.

Mange’s fresh fruit vinegars are made with fruit that has been picked at its peak, pureed and preserved in vinegar. Flavors are: blackberry, blood orange, cherry, fig, green apple, mango, passion fruit, pear, raspberry, red pepper and white peach. Mangé makes fresh fruit vinegars that give food and cocktails an extra splash of freshness and taste. The fruit infused vinegars bring a balance of acidity and sweetness that enhance flavors while also promoting a healthy eating lifestyle.

In addition to hosting stands at local farmer’s markets the Spivak’s recently opened a permanent store in the Boston Public Market. Products are also distributed in gourmet grocery stores internationally. The vinegars have been featured in Good Housekeeping and Gourmet Business magazines. You can explore the fresh fruit vinegars at www.freshfruitvinegars.com.
A Day in the Life of
Anthony Kofoworola-Kuti AS DMD 16

BACKGROUND
Tony Kofoworola-Kuti bounced around the globe before making his way to GSDM. He was born in Britain, moved to his ancestral home of Nigeria for high school, nursing school, and dental school, then landed back in the United Kingdom for an Oral Surgery Residency and Master’s in Public Health program at Cardiff University. He moved to North Carolina in 2011 to work as a dental researcher at Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center, and finally came to Boston in 2014 to begin the 2-year Advanced Standing DMD program at GSDM. “I can’t be caged,” he says of his multi-continental background. Along the way, he got married and had four children; two boys ages 14 and 12, and twin 10-year-old girls. Tony chose to attend GSDM because, in his words, “it is the only dental school that considers families.” The July start date is ideal for families, he says, because the kids are on summer break at that time. You aren’t uprooting them in middle of the school year.

Tony likes to keep himself busy. “If I’m busy, I’m productive,” he says. A typical day for Tony looks something like this:

5:45 a.m. Wake up! Ever the early riser, Tony gets up at 5:45 a.m., does morning devotions, gets ready for the day, and helps pry his kids out of bed. He’s on the red line from Quincy by 6:45 a.m.

7:20 a.m. Arrival at GSDM and hang out in the 670 auditorium studying and preparing for class.

8:00 a.m. The first class of the day begins. Depending on the day of the week, this could be GMDC, Removable Prosthodontics, Treatment Planning & Pain Management, Periodontology, Oral Radiology, or Fixed Prosthodontics.

10:00 a.m. After a brief break, the second class of the day begins. Depending on the day of the week, this could be Endodontics, Pharmacology, or a Treatment Planning Seminar.

12:00 p.m. Lunchtime in the cafeteria. Tony likes to bring lunch from home and spend his lunch break socializing with classmates and resting up from the long morning spent in classes.

1:00 p.m. Whenever possible, Tony likes to volunteer at Rosie’s Place, a local women’s shelter, with Global & Population Health.

3:00 p.m. Assist in the clinic. Getting as much hands-on experience as possible is a priority for Tony, and assisting his classmates in the clinic is a great way to stay active.

5:00 p.m. Head home for the evening to spend time with the family, do household chores, and help the kids with their homework.

6:00 p.m. Dinner time. After dinner, Tony and his wife spend time talking about their days and catching up with each other. He also likes to take this time to monitor the news in Nigeria. He has a number of family members living there, and likes to stay informed about what’s going on.

9:00 p.m. The Kofoworola-Kuti family gathers together for family devotions. Faith and spirituality is an important part of Tony’s life and having nightly devotions with his family is an important way for Tony to stay connected to his family and to keep grounded.

10:00 p.m. Send the kids to bed and get back to studying until around 11:30.

12:00 a.m. Lights out, and rest up to do it all again the next day.
“If I’m busy, I’m productive.”

ANTHONY KOFOWOROLA-KUTI DMD 16
BACKGROUND
From the moment she got her braces off at age 12, Lauren Liebman knew she wanted to be a dentist. During her orthodontic treatment, she had a palate expander and was extremely self-conscious of her teeth and how she looked. But when she got her braces off and saw her new smile, she was struck with how transformative dentistry can be to a person’s whole appearance. “You can change someone’s look completely,” she said.

Lauren was obsessed with teeth. She tracked her baby teeth and monitored the progress of when they were going to fall out; keeping meticulous notes in a journal about their status. She even performed her first extractions as a child—helping pull her brother’s teeth in exchange for Game Boy games from the Tooth Fairy. Lauren has always liked science and was drawn to dentistry because of how it combines science and art.

Lauren is the first dentist in her family. She was drawn to GSDM because she loved the idea of the Group Practices and when she toured the school, everyone was so warm and kind. “It just felt right,” she said.

Lauren is involved with the American Student Dental Association and the American Association of Women Dentists, and can often be found volunteering at community events. A typical day for Lauren might look something like this:

6:00 a.m. Wake up. Lauren likes to take her time getting ready in the morning. Her first class isn’t for another two hours and she’s only a 10 minute walk from the school, but she doesn’t like being rushed.

7:25 a.m. Head to Jaho for a quick shot of caffeine before tackling her first class.

8:00 a.m. Class time. Lauren heads straight to class—usually in room G-301—and, ever the creature of habit, makes a point to sit in the same seat every day. Depending on the day of the week and time of the year, she could be in: Physiology, GD1, or Oral Biology.

10 a.m. The second class of the day begins. This could be either: GD1, Microbiology, Oral Biology, Pathology, or Anatomy. Lauren particularly loves her Pathology class.

12 p.m. Lunch time. After a long morning sitting in class, Lauren typically likes to escape the 100 East Newton building for lunch. She usually meets up with friends in the Medical School café.

12:35 p.m. Arrive in the Simulation Learning Center (SLC) early to prepare for GD1 lab.

1 p.m. GD1 lab begins in the SLC. This is the first course the first year students take in the SLC. “It’s a totally new experience,” she said. “Sitting in the library reading and studying—I know how to do that. Using your hands is totally new and different and a little bit terrifying at first.” She added, “but I love it now. It’s a big part of what excites me about dentistry.”

5 p.m. After lab, she heads to the library to study.

6 p.m. She then heads to a meeting for the ASDA fundraising committee. Their big event each year is the golf tournament.

7 p.m. After a long day in the SLC, Lauren likes to take time to wind down in a spin studio.

8 p.m. Dinner time! She likes to cook dinner with her roommate, watch TV, and decompress from her day. She tries not to study after 8 p.m. citing how important downtime is for absorbing and processing all of the information from her day.

10:30 p.m. Bed time!
“It’s a nice idea that you can help somebody and help them feel better immediately.”

LAUREN LIEBMAN DMD 18
A Day in the Life of
Matthew Mara DMD 16

BACKGROUND
Matt Mara is a born and bred Massachusetts man. Originally from Worcester, Matt attended Boston College for his undergraduate studies, escaped to rural Georgia for a two-year stint in Teach for America, and is now back in Boston as a fourth-year DMD student at GSDM.

Matt embarked on his Teach for America journey with the goal of going somewhere completely different where he could challenge himself and make a difference. He ended up teaching integrated science and biology at a high school in Hollandale, Georgia—population 3,000. He challenged his students to work hard and told them that with enough perseverance, they could be whatever they wanted to be.

Matt realized that the best lesson he could teach his students was not in the classroom, but through leading by example. If the students were truly to believe that they could achieve their dreams, Matt needed to achieve his and become a dentist. He was attracted to GSDM by the service learning opportunities offered through Global & Population Health. Of particular interest to him was a presentation he saw on the Foundation in Service & Community Involvement trip to Barrow, Alaska; a trip Matt himself just returned from.

Matt is an active member of the GSDM community. A typical day for him might look something like this:

6:45 a.m. Crawl out of bed, shower, “tame the beast” (meaning his hair), and run out the door to get a morning pick-me-up from Flour.

7:40 a.m. Arrive at GSDM. Head immediately to his locker to get his clinic journal and organize things for the day.

7:55 a.m. Set up the operatory for the first patient of the day.

8:30 a.m. Rounds start before the patients are escorted into the clinic. Matt could not stress enough how much he loves working with Clinical Associate Professor in the Department of General Dentistry Dr. Parvis Sadooghi.

8:37 a.m. The patient is escorted into the clinic, seated, and the appointment begins.

11:15 a.m. The patient is dismissed and Matt spends the next 45 minutes recording appointment notes in Salud and cleaning the bay.

12:00 p.m. Matt heads to the lab to pour up models of the impressions he took during the appointment.

12:30 p.m. Meet with first year “ASDA Little” (an ASDA mentorship program) Lauren Liebman for lunch and to go over strategies for her GD1 summatives.

1 p.m. Head to the perio clinic to assist in a guided bone regeneration (GBR) surgery of one of his patients.

5 p.m. Meet with Group Practice Leader Dr. Michael Slesnick to do a pre-externship record review in preparation for two elective externship trips (Barrow, Alaska and Thailand & Japan International Exchange) as well as his 10-week externship placement in Rhode Island.

6 p.m. Call patients he saw during the day for a wellness check.

7 p.m. Cook dinner.

7:30 p.m. Watch Jeopardy while Skyping with his family.

8 p.m. Review lesson plans for School Based Experience as part of ADEA Academic Dental Careers Fellowship Program, which stems from research conducted with Associate Dean for Global & Population Heath Dr. Michelle Henshaw on academic based service learning.

9:15 p.m. Work on Personal Statement for application for BU AEGD residency program.

9:55 p.m. Brush and floss teeth

10 p.m. Bed time!
Matt challenged his students to work hard and told them that with enough perseverance, they could be whatever they wanted to be.
COMMENCEMENT 2015: AN UNFORGETTABLE DAY AND THE START OF A NEW CHAPTER

On Friday, May 15, 2015 190 pre-doctoral students and 88 post-doctoral residents received their degrees at the 2015 Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM) Convocation, held at the Walter Brown Arena.

Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter began the ceremony by introducing himself and welcoming graduates, family and friends, faculty and staff, alumni, and other distinguished guests. He then introduced Dean of Marsh Chapel Reverend Dr. Robert Allan Hill, who offered his guidance with an invocation.

After the invocation, Dean Hutter made a special announcement that GSDM had received a bequest of more than 3 million dollars from the estate of the late, beloved faculty member, Dr. Oreste Zanni. Dr. Zanni suffered a heart attack in the Post-doctoral Periodontal Patient Treatment Center on July 15, 2013. Dean Hutter said, “Dr. Zanni was a well-respected and award winning faculty member who died doing what he loved most—teaching students and residents and caring for patients.” He then informed the audience that this most generous bequest will be used in the following two ways:

1. The establishment of an endowed full scholarship in Dr. Zanni’s name for a Resident enrolled in the Advanced Specialty Education Program in Periodontics; and
2. That the Post-doctoral Periodontal Patient Treatment Center in the new Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine Clinical Facility be named “The Dr. Oreste Zanni Post-doctoral Periodontic Patient Treatment Center.”

To the graduates, Dean Hutter said, “You entered the Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine with eagerness and aspirations to excel as dentists and oral healthcare professionals. You have studied hard. You have formed strong friendships that will last throughout your personal and professional lives. You have experienced both challenging times and exciting times, and I know that when you look back on your experiences at the Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine, it will be these good times and the superb education that you received that will stand out in your minds.”

Boston University Dean of Students Mr. Kenneth Elmore, Esq., who refers to himself as an artist interested in issues surrounding community development and social justice, delivered the keynote address. He praised the students for their dedication to community
service—specifically for participating in Art Days and Beacon Hill Lobby Day. Dean Elmore then highlighted the importance of integrating art and science into daily life.

The Spencer N. Frankl Award for Excellence in Teaching was presented during the ceremony to Professor in the Departments of Molecular & Cell Biology and Periodontology and Goldman Distinguished Scientist Dr. Frank Oppenheim. The award honors GSDM’s Dean Spencer N. Frankl who, for more than 40 years—30 of which he served as Dean—provided the leadership and vision that shaped the School. Each year, this award recognizes one faculty member who has shown similar dedication to supporting the school’s mission.

DMD Class of 2015 President Ms. Michelle Dube and AS Class of 2015 President Mr. Azeez Gaurav Swarup presented the 2015 Class Gift to Dean Hutter. The Class of 2015 reached 66 percent participation and a Class Gift totaling $4,661.15, the highest amount to date donated to the School by the graduating class.

Assistant Dean of Students Dr. Joseph Calabrese, Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs Dr. John Guarente, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs Dr. Cataldo Leone, Alumni Association President and Assistant Professor in the Department of General Dentistry Dr. Bing Liu, Professor in the Department of General Dentistry Dr. Carl McManama each made a matching pledge in support of the DMD students’ share of the Class Gift. Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of General Dentistry Dr. Sepideh Novid also made a matching gift in support of the Advanced Standing students’ share of the Class Gift.

Collectively, student and faculty donations toward the Class Gift totaled $7,561.15.
The most common descriptions and recollections of the late Clinical Associate Professor and Clinic Director in the Department of Periodontology, Dr. Oreste “Russ” Zanni include: razor-sharp wit; humble and grounded; both frugal and generous; a man who treasured the life he shared with his late wife; and, absolutely devoted to teaching at his alma mater.

On July 15, 2013, Dr. Zanni suffered a heart attack in the Patient Treatment Center at 100 East Newton and passed away at Boston Medical Center. He was 66. Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter announced at Commencement on Friday May 15, 2015 that the School had received a bequest of more than 3 million dollars from the estate of the late, beloved alumni and faculty member.

Dean Hutter shared the news of the gift with graduating students and their families at commencement in the Walter Brown Arena, “We are so very grateful for this generous bequest, which speaks to Dr. Zanni’s love of the profession of dentistry, his affection for his alma mater, and the importance he placed on education.”

The bequest will be used to establish an endowed full scholarship in Dr. Zanni’s name for a Resident enrolled in the Advanced Specialty Education Program in Periodontics; and to name the Post-doctoral Periodontic Patient Treatment Center in the proposed new GSDM Clinical facility: “The Dr. Oreste Zanni Post-doctoral Periodontic Patient Treatment Center.”

Dr. Zanni was born and raised in Lawrence, Massachusetts. He received a B.A. in Biology from Merrimack College, North Andover MA in 1968 and a DDS from Case Western Reserve University, School of Dentistry, Cleveland OH in 1973. He also completed an Internship at Tufts New England Medical Center Department of Dental Medicine, Boston MA in 1974; and a Certificate of Advanced Graduate Study in Periodontics, Boston University School of Graduate Dentistry in 1976.

He married his childhood sweetheart, the late Paula (Licciardi) Zanni, and together they ran a periodontology practice in Lawrence and later in Methuen from 1979 until the time of their respective deaths. After Paula’s death in 2007 Dr. Zanni increased the amount of time he spent teaching at the School and forged relationships with fellow faculty and residents that seemed to sustain him.

Dr. Zanni considered GSDM Chair of Periodontology, Director of the Advanced Specialty Education Program in Periodontics at GSDM, Professor, Department of Periodontology Serge Dibart his best friend and colleague. Dibart recalls a noble friend without peer. They shared a love of good wine, museums, concerts, and culture of all types. They travelled and lectured together in Italy and elsewhere. “Zanni was my best friend, I knew him for 15 years and he was wonderful. He was a very smart fellow with a very dry sense of humor. He was a master clinician and excellent teacher,” said Dibart.

In both 2009 and 2010, Dr. Zanni
was awarded the Excellence in Teaching Award presented by the residents enrolled in the Advanced Specialty Education Program in Periodontics at GSDM. In addition, in 2008 and 2009 he was honored with the Educator Award from the American Academy of Periodontology.

Dr. Zanni’s professional activities were numerous and include memberships to societies including: the American Academy of Periodontology; the Massachusetts Periodontal Society; the Merrimack Valley Dental Society; and the Greater Lawrence Dental Society.

Attorneys Anthony (Tony) and Kathleen DiFruscia were decades-long friends of the Zannis, going out to dinner together every Friday evening for nearly 30 years. The tradition continued after Paula’s death. “Tony and I were like family to Russ, particularly after Paula passed,” said Kathleen. “Tony and Russ became like brothers and even travelled to Italy together. After that trip Russ caught the travel bug and then travelled frequently with his close friend Serge (Dibart).”

Tony DiFruscia recalls how their friendship developed: “Our Lawrence offices were across the street from each other so after I was referred to him as a patient, we developed a friendship that lasted for 30-plus years. Both of our parents emigrated to Lawrence from Italy, which was a common bond. Our families valued and encouraged education as a means of upward mobility and his bequests speak to his own estimation of the value of education.”

Vice President of Clinical and Translational Research at Forsyth and GSDM Adjunct Professor of Molecular & Cell Biology Thomas E. Van Dyke is also a 1973 DDS graduate of the Case Western Reserve University School of Dentistry and recalled with pleasure being on the GSDM faculty with his former classmate. He spoke to Dr. Zanni’s commitment to the students, “Russ spent an inordinate amount of time with the students. He taught them all the basics that nowadays get lost. He was very Socratic in his teaching methods — ‘why are we doing this?’ ‘Who said to do it this way?’”

Many colleagues and residents recalled that Dr. Zanni would arrive at school very early every day, in order to avoid the traffic on Interstate 93 from his home in Andover. Clinical Instructor Jess Liu PERIO14 would accompany Dr. Zanni on a long walk around the South End nearly every morning. “He was very kind and we were very close,” said Liu. Other residents spoke to the “Zanni Standard” that they now hold one another to in the Patient Treatment Center.

“We are so very grateful for this generous bequest, which speaks to Dr. Zanni’s love of the profession of dentistry, his affection for his alma mater, and the importance he placed on education.”

DEAN JEFFREY W. HUTTER

Above (l-r): Dr. Zanni as a dental student, 1970
Dr. Zanni sipping coffee in the office after his morning walk around the South End
Clinical Assistant Professor Gail McCausland recalls arriving at the School many mornings to find Dr. Zanni, post walk, sipping his coffee with a crossword puzzle. She chuckled with affection recounting both his habits and his frugality, “Russ had a brand new car in his garage at home but insisted on driving his 1991 Nissan, determined to literally drive it into the ground!”

Both Dr. Dibart and Attorney Anthony DiFruscia tell stories about Dr. Zanni’s rare indulgence in the purchase of a pair of Bally shoes. DiFruscia recounts, “Russ liked to shop at Sears and it used to drive me crazy! After much teasing and cajoling he finally bought himself a really nice pair of shoes. The Friday night before he died he was showing off his new Bally shoes and grumbling about the cost — I told him they will last you a lifetime if you take care of them and he asked me to make sure he was buried in them.” He trails off, “Little did I know that he would die just three days later.”

Director of Educational Resources and Professor A. Stephen Polins was one of Dr. Zanni’s teachers when he was a Periodontology Resident at GSDM. “He was a quiet understated fellow who was very serious about his commitment to his program and profession.” He continued, “It was a pleasure to get reacquainted with Russ as a fellow faculty member, but he was a very private person. I don’t think any of us realized that he had amassed such an estate because he was so understated about everything.”

Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Professor in the Department of Periodontology Cataldo Leone spoke to Dr. Zanni’s dedication to clinical excellence and teaching. “Russ was completely devoted to his late wife Paula and after she passed he really threw himself into teaching and training residents.” He continued, “He clearly derived genuine pleasure from being around the residents and the feeling was mutual. He was a joy to be around.”

In addition to the bequest to GSDM Dr. Zanni also left a $3M bequest to Case Western Reserve University School of Dental Medicine. This bequest will be used to fund research and to name the new Periodontal Clinic at the Case Western Reserve University Health Education Campus, which is in the planning stages.
Counting on a Tax Deduction This Year?
Keep an Eye on the Timing of Your Gift

We know that your decision to support Boston University School of Dental Medicine comes from the heart. A bonus is that your gift may also qualify for a tax break this year when you itemize deductions on your federal income tax return. Take a look at the following deadlines and mark your calendar so you can ensure the timing of your gift.

Mark Your Calendar
Accomplish the following to ensure that your gift is eligible for a charitable deduction this year.

- **Cash** — Mail your check by Dec. 31.
- **Stock** — Complete the entire transfer of securities to us electronically so we receive them by Dec. 31.
- **Real estate** — Deliver the executed deed by Dec. 31.
- **Tangible personal property** — Deliver the donated property by Dec. 31.

Feel free to contact Kevin Holland if you have any questions about the timing of your gift or your eligibility for a tax deduction.

FREE Guide!
You can make a big difference with just a little effort by designating us as a beneficiary of your retirement plan assets, life insurance, or commercial annuities. Learn more by requesting our free guide *The 3 Easiest Ways to Leave Your Legacy.*

Contact us today at kevinh@bu.edu or 617-638-4884.
Dear Fellow Alumni:

On May 15, 2015 190 pre-doctoral students and 88 post-doctoral residents received their degrees at the 2015 Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM) Convocation, adding 278 members to our alumni association. It was such a pleasure to be present and immediately welcome them to ranks of proud GSDM alumni. Our alumni association board also grew as we welcomed Gary Nord DMD 10 and Shervin Tabeshfar AEGD 10, Pros 13, MSD 13 to the board.

At the convocation, Dean Hutter announced the $3M bequest made by beloved faculty member, the late Dr. Oreste Zanni, who you read about in this issue of Impressions. Having spoken to many members of our alumni about this generous gift I can say that as a group, we are certainly inspired to consider GSDM when planning our own estates.

Also at the ceremony, DMD Class of 2015 President Ms. Michelle Dube and A5 DMD Class of 2015 President Mr. Azeez Gaurav Swarup presented the 2015 Class Gift to Dean Hutter. The Class of 2015 reached 66 percent participation with a Class Gift totaling $4,661.15, the highest amount to date donated to the School by the graduating class.

Assistant Dean of Students Dr. Joseph Calabrese, Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs Dr. John Guarente, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs Dr. Cataldo Leone, Professor in the Department of General Dentistry Dr. Carl McManama and I each gave $220 for a total of $1,100 in support of the DMD students’ share of the Class Gift.

I have had such a wonderful time attending alumni receptions and visiting with you in person. I recently attended the Boston University Gala in April 2015 in New York City and truly enjoyed the generous spirit of BU alums and the support and friendship they showed each other. I witnessed firsthand the alumni relations and development progress Boston University has made. I also visited alums in the greater Houston area and I’m happy to report that they are all doing very well and cheering for the progress our School has made in education and patient care.

In May I participated in the ASDA Golf Tournament and the Senior BBQ. Both are great events and it was wonderful to see so many familiar faces. Please register and attend in the future so you can spend a fun day with the graduating students and fellow GSDM alumni. Most recently, in July, I had the privilege of welcoming the new pre-doctoral and post-doctoral students to GSDM on behalf of our Alumni Association. They are all eager to start their career at our School and, one day soon, get involved in our Alumni Association.

I look forward to welcoming you back to campus during Alumni weekend this September.

Sincerely,

Bing Liu DScD99, DMD03
President, Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine Alumni Association
REUNION AND CONTINUING EDUCATION HIGHLIGHTS OF AEGD AND PGOE DINNER

Alumni and guests of the Advanced Education in General Dentistry (AEGD) and Post Graduate Operative & Esthetic Dentistry (PGOE) Programs convened for the ninth annual alumni reunion and continuing education dinner in the Metcalf Trustee Ballroom on Friday, June 13, 2014. A total of 116 people attended—including 67 alumni and 14 current residents of AEGD and PGOE.

Program Director Dr. John Cassis invited Dr. Georgios E. Romanos to give the continuing education lecture. Dr. Romanos is a Professor of Periodontology and former Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs at Stony Brook University School of Dental Medicine in New York. Dr. Romanos is also a Professor of Oral Surgery and Implantology at the University of Frankfurt, Germany.

Dr. Romanos spoke on immediate loading of dental implants. He presented basic scientific and clinical information needed to load implants immediately after surgery and the main characteristics of an implant design that improves the primary stability and maintains the crest of bone.

Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter welcomed and thanked the alumni for their support. He also spoke about the proposed new GSDM facility.

A HERO IN OUR MIDST—FRANK SCHIANO HONORED BY THE MDS

In October of 2014, Dr. Frank Schiano, Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of General Dentistry and Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine alum (CAS 01, DMD 06, AEGD 07), was recognized as a William McKenna Volunteer Hero by the Massachusetts Dental Society (MDS), a statewide organization serving nearly 5,000 member dentists. Dr. Schiano was acknowledged by his peers for substantial contributions to organized dentistry at both the state and local district levels.

Dr. Schiano, who has been practicing dentistry for eight years, has served as a Guest Board Member of the MDS and participated in the Society’s Leadership Institute Program. As current Chair of the MDS Boston Collaborative Group—an offshoot of the MDS Metropolitan District Dental Society that aims to expand involvement and increase diverse representation in organized dentistry for Boston dentists through educational programs, community service events, and collegial networking—he assists member dentists in planning community service events with organizations like Rosie’s Place and Habitat for Humanity. For the past four years, Dr. Schiano has also traveled to Teacapan, Mexico, with a team of volunteers and dental students from Project STRETCH to provide education and free treatment for children. He is also a mentor to dental students and new dentists.

The Volunteer Hero Award is given in memory of the late Dr. William H. McKenna, who was a driving force behind the development of the Yankee Dental Congress, New England’s largest dental meeting, and considered by many to have been a model of volunteerism within the MDS.

COMING HOME—ALUMNI RETURN TO GSDM FOR ALUMNI WEEKEND

On the weekend of September 19, 2014, Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM) welcomed home and celebrated its alumni. Alumni from around the globe journeyed back to Boston for a chance to remember and honor their alma mater.

The Dean’s Advisory Board and the GSDM Alumni Board met during the week, and alumna Kathy Jendrasik-Savitsky DMD 94 gave a lunch and learn presentation about CEREC and the use of digital dentistry in her private practice. Afterward, Assistant Dean of Students and Assistant Professor in the Department of General Dentistry Joseph Calabrese DMD 91, AEGD 92 led a tour of the School for the Class of 1994 and their families.

On Friday, September 19, GSDM alumni gathered with faculty, staff, students, and friends at the Four Seasons Boston for a reception including dinner and live music. Alumni reminisced about all those long nights in the lab setting.
teeth, the early morning Fixed SIMS, and that faculty member who inspired them to pursue their dreams.

The reception also marked a changing of the guard in the leadership of the Alumni Association. Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of General Dentistry and Alumni Association President Mitchell Sabbagh DMD 87 handed over the ceremonial gavel to Assistant Professor in the Department of General Dentistry and new Alumni Association President Bing Liu DMD 03.

Dr. Liu has served on the GSDM faculty since 1999. He began his career at GSDM as a Research Associate and, after graduating from the Advanced Standing program in 2003, was appointed Assistant Professor in the Department of General Dentistry. Dr. Liu has been teaching pre-doctoral students in the Simulation Learning Center and in the Pre-doctoral Treatment Centers ever since. His introduction was met with a standing ovation.

Immediately following the introduction of Dr. Liu, Dean Hutter presented the Distinguished Alumni Award for Outstanding Service to the School to Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of General Dentistry Tina Valades DMD 84.

The Distinguished Alumni Award for Outstanding Service to the School is presented to an alum who has gone out of his or her way to promote and serve GSDM. Dr. Valades was presented with this award in recognition of her tireless efforts on behalf of GSDM, the alumni, faculty, staff, and students. She has been a valuable member of numerous committees throughout GSDM, and has been a tireless teacher for 28 years.

As an alum, she has been an active and passionate advocate for her alma mater, most recently serving the GSDM Alumni Association as Immediate Past President.

The following day, the classes of 1984, 1989, and 1994 who were, respectively, celebrating their 30, 25, and 20 year class reunions, joined together for a reunion party at the Forum Restaurant hosted by Dean and Mrs. Hutter.

---

**PERIO ALUMNI CONVERGE AT THE AAP ANNUAL MEETING ON ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY**

On September 20, 2014, Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM) hosted its annual Periodontal Alumni Reception at the San Francisco Marriott Marquis. The reception is held every year during the American Academy of Periodontology (AAP) Annual Meeting. This year, the meeting held special significance as it marked the 100th Anniversary of the AAP. Turnout exceeded previous years, with approximately 80 GSDM alumni in attendance.

Due to his hosting the GSDM Alumni Reception as part of the BU Alumni Weekend, Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter was unable to attend the AAP meeting. Professor in the Department of Periodontology and the Department of Molecular & Cell Biology and Associate Dean for Academic Affairs Dr. Cataldo Leone attended the meeting in his absence, and expressed the Dean’s regrets to the attendees.

According to Dr. Leone, the alumni reception was a huge success, with over 80 old and new alums enjoying one another’s company and reminiscing about the many friendships made during their years in the GSDM Postdoctoral Periodontology Program. He felt it was extra special because the annual meeting celebrated the 100th anniversary of the American Academy of Periodontology, a still vibrant organization in the dental profession.

Professor and Chair in the Department of Periodontology and Director of the Advanced Specialty Education Program in Periodontics Dr. Serge Dibart, who hosted the reception, spoke to the crowd and highlighted several activities the Department of Periodontology is undertaking, including: further interdisciplinary collaboration.
Throughout the School, offering additional Continuing Education courses, and adding a Clinical Masters track to the Program which will lead to a Masters in Periodontology. He also discussed his desire for GSDM alumni to be more involved and more present at future AAP meetings.

**Exploring the Mines of Idaho—Endodontic Alumni Association Holds Fall Meeting in Coeur D’Alene**

The Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM) Endodontic Alumni Association held its Fall Meeting on October 15-18, 2014 in Coeur d’Alene, Idaho. Timothy Penberthy ENDO 95 chaired the meeting. He developed a robust complement of lectures and programs for the Endo alums and their families.

On Wednesday evening, as a kick-off to the annual meeting, a welcome reception was held at the Coeur d’Alene Resort, the location of the week’s festivities. Endodontic Alumni Association President Marshall Michaelian Jr. ENDO 01 thanked everyone for attending and provided an update on the Alumni Association.

Thursday and Friday were filled with lectures and presentations from Dr. Bob Achterberg, Dr. Earl Ness, Dr. Rod Tataryn, and GSDM alums Bryan Beebe ENDO 93, and John Stropko ENDO 89. Topics included Oral Pathology: HPV and Oral Cancer, “All Things Pros”, CT Long Beam & Sinuses, Lasers in Endodontics, External Resorption, and Endodontic Microsurgery.

On Thursday evening, after a full day of lectures, everyone gathered for a dinner cruise on The Spirit of Coeur d’Alene. Associate Professor in the Department of Endodontics and Director of the Advanced Specialty Education Program (ASEP) in Endodontics Dr. Sami Chogle spoke to the alumni and their guests as to the Department of Endodontics and the ASEP in Endodontics, and invited them all back to Boston to give lectures to the residents. He told them that, as GSDM alums, the Program would welcome their input and the residents would benefit from their experiences.

On Friday evening, the endodontic alumni and their families were entertained at a dueling piano bar while they enjoyed a cocktail hour and dinner. The meeting concluded on Saturday with lunch and a tour of the Sierra Silver Mine.

The next Endodontic Alumni Association meeting will be held in Nashville, Tennessee on October 7-11, 2015 and will be organized by Ben Locke ENDO 79.

**GSDM Alumni Meet at Annual ADA Meeting in San Antonio**

Many members of the Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM) community attended the 2014 American Dental Association (ADA) Annual Session, held October 8-11 in San Antonio, Texas. At this year’s Session, GSDM congratulated the latest inductees into both the American College of Dentists (ACD) and the International College of Dentists (ICD), and announced that GSDM is the first dental school in the nation to go completely digital.

During the ADA Session, Dean and Mrs. Jeffrey W. Hutter hosted a reception for GSDM alumni on Saturday, October 11, at the Mokara Hotel & Spa. Dean Hutter addressed the attendees saying that it was wonderful to see so many alumni, faculty, staff, students, family members, and friends. He congratulated the 15 alumni and faculty who were inducted into the American and International Colleges of Dentists.

The ACD and the ICD recognize dentists for their individual achievements, leadership, and contributions to dentistry and society.

The GSDM inductees to the ACD were: Elvis Babo DMD 01; Cherae M. Farmer-Dixon DPH 14; Associate Dean for Global & Population Health Michelle Henshaw MPH 96, DSc 07; and Amir Mehrabi ENDO 05.

The GSDM inductees to the ICD were: Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of General Dentistry Charilaos Asikis; Clinical Assistant
Professor in the Department of General Dentistry Laura Bacerra PERIO 04, DMD 10; Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of General Dentistry David Dano AEGD 12; Frank A. DeQuattro DMD 98, ORTHO 01; Assistant Dean for Business Development Dr. Margaret Errante; Harish Gulati PGOE 05; Assistant Professor in the Department of General Dentistry Bing Liu DSc 99, DMD 03; I. Blake McKinley, Jr ENDO 97; Gigi Meinecke DMD 88; Amir Mehrabi ENDO 05; and David H. Schneider DMD 81, PERIO 83.

During the alumni reception, Dean Hutter proudly announced that on August 29, 2014 GSDM signed an agreement with Sirona Dental Systems, and as a result of this collaboration, GSDM is the first dental school in the nation to transition entirely to seamlessly integrated digital dentistry. With the implementation of digital dentistry, GSDM has committed itself to providing state-of-the-art technology to its students, faculty, and staff, and fostering its use by practitioners in the community.

Dean Hutter mentioned that intra-oral digital images, intra-oral exams, and digital scans of hard and soft tissues will then be accessible through a comprehensive record. Ancillary information such as photographs, computerized axial tomography, cone beam, cephalometric, panoramic, and facial scans will also be attached to the digital record. This data may then be overlaid and interact to produce a complete digital representation of the patient, including 3-D renderings of the face.

As a result of the seamless digital dentistry transition, GSDM students, residents, and faculty will be able to engage in comprehensive treatment planning without the need for the physical presence of the patient, saving valuable patient time. Furthermore, this transition presents a unique opportunity to conduct an innovative program of comparative effectiveness research on digital dentistry, which will allow GSDM to play a leading role in advancing evidence-based dentistry in the US and the world.

Dean Hutter concluded by saying that digital dentistry will result in a beneficial change in the world of dental medicine and patient care, and it is going to absolutely transform dental education.

Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM) alumna Lisa A. Thompson DMD 05 was the guest editor for the October issue of Dental Clinics of North America, a quarterly publication by Elsevier that provides updates on the latest trends in dental patient management and the newest advances in the dental profession. Each issue focuses on a single topic in dentistry and is presented under the direction of an experienced guest editor. The October 2014 issue focused on geriatric dentistry, and three GSDM faculty members co-authored a chapter entitled, "Oral Health Disparity in Older Adults: Dental Decay and Tooth Loss."

The three contributing faculty members were: Professor Emerita Dr. Paula K. Friedman; Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of General Dentistry Dr. Steven L. Karpas; and Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of General Dentistry Dr. Laura B. Kaufman.

The October issue highlighted that good oral health is increasingly recognized today as an integral part of the total health care picture, and that it helps ensure well-being. The Oral Health and Disparity in Older Adults chapter went a step further to discuss how poor oral health is considered a risk factor for poor overall health, and this is of concern for the geriatric population given numerous demographic and socioeconomic factors, complex medical and psychosocial conditions, inability to travel, and the limi-
The chapter calls attention to a public health issue in geriatric dentistry because the baby boom generation is entering the later years of life and overall life expectancy has increased. According to co-author Dr. Laura B. Kaufman, many older adults—including those aged 70, 80, 90 and 100+—are keeping their natural dentition over their lifetime, with good oral health often an indicator of good systemic health. The chapter specifically mentions the benefits of retaining one’s natural dentition, however the retention of natural teeth into older age puts a greater number of teeth at risk for tooth decay and periodontal disease, because age-related issues may hamper oral hygiene efforts and the ability to access regular dental care.

To compound the issue, the chapter points out that there are limited numbers of dentists who are willing and able to provide dental care to residents in long term care facilities. Dentists may be reluctant to treat these elderly patients, citing pressures from private practice, including concerns about taking time from their practices to travel to long term care facilities. Other reasons for dentists’ reluctance to treat this patient cohort include the challenge of managing frail older adults with complicated physical and cognitive conditions, and the complexity of the work environment within the long term care facilities. Furthermore, many dentists perceive themselves as inadequately trained to treat long term care residents, also citing poor remuneration from private and public dental insurance plans and/or personal negative feelings in treating people with complex medical and psychosocial conditions.

Dental economics also come into play. The chapter calls attention to one of the greatest barriers to access to dental care for older adults—poverty. Older adults usually do not have private dental insurance. The authors cite very high costs for dental coverage. In fact, they mention that only 2 percent of Americans maintain a dental insurance plan into the retirement years. When lacking dental health insurance, accessing dental care becomes an out-of-pocket expense. And a lack of available funds for preventive and basic dental care may lead to a significant public health issue as more people live into their later years.

A downloadable copy of the October issue (with paid subscription) is available on the Dental Clinics of North America website.

GSDM PROSTHODONTIC ALUMNI GATHER AT RECEPTION IN NEW ORLEANS

On Thursday, November 6, 2014, members of the Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM) community gathered at the Windsor Court Hotel in New Orleans for an alumni reception held during the 44th Annual Session of the American College of Prosthodontists (ACP). The reception was hosted by Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter, Professor and Chair in the Department of Restorative Sciences & Biomaterials Dr. Dan Nathanson, and (now former) Professor of Restorative Sciences & Biomaterials and Director of the Advanced Specialty Education Program in Prosthodontics Dr. Steven Morgano. Both Dean Hutter and Dr. Nathanson provided remarks during which they thanked Dr. Morgano for his dedicated service to GSDM and welcomed Dr. Arthur Sun as the Director ad interim of the Advanced Specialty Education Program in Prosthodontics.

The ACP Annual Session, which drew around 1,200 attendees, featured speakers’ analysis on topics such as systemic and oral health challenges, treatment rationales, and the integration of digital technology into prosthodontic practice.

Alumni and faculty in attendance were: Reem Abualsaud Pros 15, Aws Arrejaie Pros 10, Hamed Alenezi CAS 08 DMD 11, AEGD 12, Abdallah Awada Pros 14, Nadim Baba Pros 99 00, Hamad Burashed DMD 13, Juan Cardenais Pros 93, Najla Chebib AEGD 01, Edward Chaoho Chien Pros 15, Michael Donovan DMD 13, Leonardo Frydman DMD 94, Pros 02, Dean Jeffrey Hutter, Professor and Chair ad interim in the Department of General Dentistry Celeste Kong Pros 84 DMD 87, Samer Khayat Pros 04, Thamer Marghalani Pros 02 05, Dr. Steve Morgano, Michael Moscovitch Pros 78, Dan Nathanson Pros 90, Mohammed Nazarian Pros 12, Gary Nord DMD 10, Mohamed Shafuer Pros 15, Delsaz Sultan DMD 13, Dmitri Svirksy DMD 94 Pros 96, Mark Wang DMD 94, George Wu Pros 12, Fong Wong Pros 02, Arthur Sun Pros 82 DMD 84, Hideo Yamamoto Pros 90 DMD 92.

Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter joins members of the GSDM community at the 44th Annual Session of the American College of Prosthodontists.
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD CONVENES DURING YANKEE DENTAL CONGRESS ONCE AGAIN

On Friday, January 30, 2015 the bi-annual Alumni Association Board Meeting was held in the Constitution Room of the Seaport Hotel during the Yankee Dental Congress (YDC). It was the first meeting that Bing Liu DSC 90 DMD 03 presided over since being appointed new Alumni Association Board President in the Fall of 2014.

The meeting included:
• A welcome from Dr. Liu;
• An update on the state of the school from Dean Hutter;
• A presentation on “Evertrue,” an app for BU Alumni, by Associate Director of Alumni Online Engagements Ms. Kristy Kime;
• A University update by Vice President for Alumni Relations Mr. Steve Hall;
• A Development and Campaign Update by Assistant Dean for Development & Alumni Relations Mr. Kevin Holland;
• An update on:
  - Dr. Liu’s efforts with alumni in Texas;
  - Post-doctoral Alumni Associations;
  - Nominations for Secretary and President Elect;
  - And, creation of a Task Force to Review the Alumni Association bylaws.

Dr. Liu thanked all for their time and efforts and adjourned the meeting in time for everyone to attend the YDC alumni reception, also being held at the Seaport Hotel.

Members in attendance at the meeting were: Elizabeth Benz DMD 11, Nazila Bidabadi CAS 82 DMD 87, Joseph Calabrese DMD 91 AEGD 92, Shadi Daher DMD 90 OMS 94, Puneet Kochhar DMD 03, Bing Liu DSC 99 DMD 03, Monique Mabry Bamel DMD 90, Zhimon Jacobson PROS 80 DMD 86, Josephine Pandolfo CAS 74 DMD 79 PERIO 82, Sean Rayment DMD 97, Mitch Sabbagh DMD 87, Frank Schiano CAS 01 DMD 06 AEGD 07, Ronni Schnell DMD 81, and Tina Valades DMD 84.

On Friday, January 30, 2015 over 500 alumni, faculty, staff and students of Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM) mingled in the Plaza Ballroom of the Seaport Hotel at the alumni reception held during Yankee Dental Congress 2015. As always, this annual reception provided members of the GSDM community the opportunity to relax and catch up with each other. Along with Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter and his advisory board, BU Vice President for Alumni Relations Mr. Steve Hall and the GSDM alumni board were at the gathering.

Following Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter’s welcoming remarks, a short video was played which showcased digital dentistry at GSDM as the first school in the nation to seamlessly integrate digital technology into patient care and dental education. In the crowd was also Mr. Steve Hall, BU Vice President for Alumni Relations.

Dean Hutter told the crowd that he was so pleased to see such a large turnout at the alumni reception and that it was wonderful to spot so many familiar faces and connect with so many alumni who are making significant contributions to the field of dentistry.
A Shenkin hadn’t set foot on Belarusian soil in more than 120 years. The Shenkins left Minsk for the United States and it wouldn’t be for generations to come that Dr. Jonathan Shenkin, ADA first vice president, would break the streak. Dr. Shenkin’s family left Belarus seeking a better life, but he would return seeking to make life better for Belarusians.

Dr. Shenkin, clinical associate professor of health policy, health services research and pediatric dentistry at Boston University, received confirmation January 7, 2015 from the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board, the Bureau of Education and Cultural Affairs of the Department of State and the Council for International Exchange of Scholars that he was selected for a Fulbright Specialist Program grant in public/global health at Belarusian State Medical University. He will develop strategies and curriculum for Belarusian State dental faculty on how to train pediatricians in Belarus about the oral health of young children ages six months to three years.

According to ADA President Maxine Feinberg, Dr. Shenkin is the first ADA trustee to receive this honor, and the ADA is very proud of him for sharing his knowledge and expertise with the physicians, dentists and people of Belarus.

The Fulbright Specialist Program promotes linkages between U.S. scholars and professionals and their counterparts at host institutions overseas, according to the Council for International Exchange of Scholars’ website. Dr. Shenkin will travel to Belarus this spring for two weeks to help the dental faculty to develop a training seminar for pediatricians to conduct oral exams and improve the health literacy of their patient populations.

According to Dr. Shenkin, Belarus has a state-funded dental system where all care for children is provided in clinics for free. They recognize that they have an increasing level of dental decay in kids but they already have enough dentists and enough drills to fill teeth. They want to prevent disease from happening beforehand, which has been Dr. Shenkin’s mantra in the United States for years. He hopes this project bridges a common divide between dentists and physicians that exists worldwide.

Part of Dr. Shenkin’s grant also includes educating physicians on how they can encourage their patients to purchase fluoride salt. Instead of fluoridating their water, which is how many U.S. cities deliver fluoride to residents, Belarus fluoridates its salt and makes it available for purchase.

Dr. Shenkin is trying to educate physicians about oral health and the need to educate their patients about specific behaviors that they’re not doing.

One of the challenges in Belarus, as in many countries, is that many children under age 3 only see a dentist when they are in pain, leading to an increase in dental caries. The seminars Dr. Shenkin will develop will help pediatricians understand oral health behaviors that result in health outcomes; clinical skills to identify early signs of disease; placement of fluoride varnish to reduce disease risk; and educational tools to promote oral health in children. The training will also help physicians understand the importance of setting up a dental home for their patients.

Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter congratulated Dr. Shenkin on behalf of the entire GSMD community on becoming a Fulbright Scholar. ■

Soderlund K. Dr. Shenkin is first ADA trustee to receive Fulbright Specialist Program grant. ADA News Jan. 19, 2015;46(2):2. Copyright 2015 @ American Dental Association. All rights reserved. Reproduced with permission.

In July 2015 Dean’s Advisory Board Chair David Lustbader was elected Vice President of the MDS. An MDS member since 1990, Dr. Lustbader most recently served as Trustee of the South Shore District Dental Society on the MDS Board of Trustees. He also served as General Arrangements Co-Chair for the 2015 Yankee Dental Congress, New England’s largest dental meeting attracting about 28,000 attendees each year.

Dr. Lustbader received his bachelor’s and dental degrees from Boston University. He completed his residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery at Long Island Jewish Medical Center in New York with an emphasis on reconstructive, implant and pre-prosthetic surgery.

He served as clinical instructor for SUNY at Stony Brook School of Dental Medicine for two years and at Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine from 1991 to the present.

Dr. Lustbader is currently Chief of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery at Steward Carney Hospital and Milton Hospital. He is also a clinical instructor at Boston Medical Center. He also maintains a private practice, South Shore Oral Surgery Associates, located at 270 Quincy Avenue in Quincy. He resides in Canton with his wife Wendy. ■
Assistant Professor in the Department of Endodontics at Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM) Dr. Seymour Melnick was honored by the American Association of Endodontists (AAE) with the Part-Time Educator Award at the AAE Annual Session in Seattle, Washington which took place May 6–9, 2015. The award is presented annually to an AAE member with a minimum of 20 years of teaching history whose contributions have instilled a desire in his/her students to pursue excellence.

The AAE Annual Session brought together endodontists from around the globe to take part in several days of scientific, clinical and research presentations, continuing education courses, hands-on workshops, and looking at new products in the Exhibitors’ Hall. Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter and Director of the Advanced Specialty Program in Endodontics Dr. Sami Chogle also hosted a reception for GSDM alumni. During the Annual Session, three GSDM alums were recognized for receiving certification by the American Board of Endodontics. They were Christopher Dorr ENDO 06; Laila Kafi DMD 07, ENDO 12; and Michael Pauk DMD 10, ENDO 12.

Siraj Dakhil ENDO 15 received one of the top ten scores in the AAE/DENTSPLY Resident Award Contest for his oral presentation titled “Post-surface Pretreatment with Dimethyl Sulfoxide to Enhance the Interfacial Bond Strength Between Fiber Posts and Resin Cements.” He was awarded $1,000 and recognized at the Edgar D. Coolidge Awards Luncheon held on Saturday, May 9.

Prior to receiving his award, Dr. Melnick was honored at the alumni reception hosted by Dean Hutter and Dr. Chogle at the Sheraton Seattle Hotel on the evening of May 7. Approximately 100 alumni and their guests attended the reception. Dr. Chogle served as Master of Ceremony as several GSDM alums took to the podium to speak about the impact Dr. Melnick had made on them during their time as residents.

Sheri Bernadett ENDO 91 said that Dr. Melnick’s class gave them a real world skill and he showed them the practical application of what they would be doing on a daily basis in their practices. She went on to thank Dr. Melnick for his service to his students and patients and mentioned that hundreds of thousands of patients have benefited from treatment by endodontists trained by Dr. Melnick at GSDM.

Another former resident, Mark Desrosiers ENDO 06, said that the number of people in attendance at the reception was a testament to their appreciation and that Dr. Melnick had touched so many throughout the years.

The other speakers were: Normand Aubre ENDO 87; Justin Aurbach ENDO 72; Howard Bittner ENDO 95; and Jason Conn DMD 10, ENDO 12.

Dean Hutter praised Dr. Melnick for his years of service and in recognition of his award presented him with a Gurgling Cod in the color of Nantucket Coral from Shreve, Crump, & Low on behalf of the School. Since its introduction in 1964, the Gurgling Cod has become a well-known symbol of Boston. According to Dean Hutter, Dr. Melnick spent his lifetime educating the future generations of endodontists. He is an asset to our School and is certainly deserving of the prestigious award. Endodontic Alumni Association President Marshall Michaelian ENDO 01 spoke about the impact Dr. Melnick has had on GSDM and presented him with a Boston University Captain’s Chair on behalf of the alumni. Dr. Melnick thanked everyone and announced to everyone’s pleasure that he has no plans to retire.

Dean Hutter also congratulated Drs. Dorr, Kafi, and Pauk for receiving their board certifications, and praised Dr. Dakhil for his excellent oral presentation.

The Part-Time Educator Award was presented to Dr. Melnick during the Edgar D. Coolidge Luncheon on Saturday, May 9. The award was presented by Chair of the Honors and Awards Committee Dr. Shepard S. Goldstein and President of the AAE Dr. Robert S. Roda. Dr. Melnick, who has served on the faculty of GSDM since 1967, was nominated for this award by Dr. Chogle with letters of support from several faculty members and former residents.
Profiles

**Gary Nord DMD 10** is an associate prosthodontist at All American Smile Dental Studios on Madison Avenue in New York and a dental director of House Call Dentists for Blende Dental Group also located in New York. He is a member of the American Dental Association, the American College of Prosthodontists, the Greater New York Academy of Prosthodontists, and has served as a congressional dental lobbyist for the American Dental Political Action Committee.

Dr. Nord received his DMD in 2010 from GSDM where he graduated cum laude. While at GSDM, he received the Student Government Leadership Award, the Outstanding Dental Student Leadership Award from the International College of Dentists, and the American College Prosthodontics Award. In 2011, he completed a General Practice Residency at Wyckoff Heights Medical Center in Brooklyn, New York where he was honored as Resident of the Year. He stayed at Wyckoff Heights for another year serving as Chief Dental Resident. While at Wyckoff Heights, he won first place in the poster presentation at the Greater Long Island Dental Meeting, and second prize for scientific writing and research for Wyckoff Heights Hospital and Weill Medical College of Cornell University. He has also taken advanced prosthodontics courses at New York University and participated in an Implantology Fellowship Continuum at Columbia University.

**Shervin Tabeshfar AEGD 10, Pros 13, MSD 13** is a clinical assistant professor at GSDM in the Department of Restorative Sciences & Biomaterials and in the Department of General Dentistry. He is a member of the American Dental Association, Massachusetts Dental Association, and American College of Prosthodontists. He has taught numerous continuing education courses at GSDM and regularly lectures for the pre-doctoral pre-clinical Removable Prosthodontics course at GSDM. He has also lectured at the New York Study Club.

Dr. Tabeshfar received his DDS in 2006 from Islamic Azad University of Tehran School of Dentistry in Iran. He received a Certificate of Advanced Graduate Study (CAGS) in Advanced Education in General Dentistry from GSDM in 2010. In 2013 he received a CAGS in Prosthodontics as well as a Master of Science in Dentistry in Prosthodontics from GSDM. Upon graduation, he joined the GSDM faculty in both the pre-doctoral program as well as the Advanced Education in General Dentistry program.
Alumni

events

25th

Mitch Sabbagh DMD 87 outgoing alumni association president

20th

30th
(l-r) Abol Tehrani DMD 82 PROS 80, Shadi Daher DMD 90 OMFS 94, Vice President Alumni Relations Steve Hall

(l-r) Bing Liu DScD 99 DMD 03, John Guarente DMD 89, Joseph Calabrese DMD 91 AEGD 92, Ronni Schnell DMD 81, Mr. Roger Reizovic, Ms. Stacey McNamee, Ms. Diane Reizovic

(l-r) Ernest F. Powers, John Guarente DMD 89, Bing Liu DScD 99, DMD 03

Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter with students at the 2015 Yankee Dental Congress

## Upcoming Alumni Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 25, 2015</td>
<td>GSDM Alumni Weekend Reception</td>
<td>Boston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 7-11, 2015</td>
<td>Endodontic Alumni Association Fall Meeting</td>
<td>Nashville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 22, 2015</td>
<td>ACP Annual Session Alumni Reception</td>
<td>Orlando</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 6, 2015</td>
<td>ADA Annual Session Alumni Reception</td>
<td>Washington, DC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 16, 2015</td>
<td>AAP Annual Meeting Alumni Reception</td>
<td>Orlando</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 29, 2016</td>
<td>Yankee Dental Congress Reception</td>
<td>Boston</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Four Seasons Hotel
Omni Nashville Hotel
Renaissance Orlando Sea World
Army Navy Club
Gaylord Palms Hotel
Seaport Hotel

Boston
Nashville
Orlando
Washington, DC
Orlando
Boston
Alumni

events

(lr) Dr. Alfonso Caiazzo, Pushkar Mehra DMD 95 OMFS 99, Dr. Stavros Tombris, Dr. Harry Apostolidis

(lr) Gary Nord DMD 10, Shervin Tabeshfar AEGD 10 PROS 14, Mariah Vokili, Maddy Apfel DMD 80, Mitch Sabbagh DMD 87

(lr) Delphine Jeong DMD 15, Mitali Khanna DMD 15, Justine Karanian DMD 15

(lr) Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter, Celeste Kong PROS 84 DMD 87, Reem Abualsaud PROS 15, Edward Chaoho Chien PROS 17, George Wu PROS 12

(lr) Ms. Lilia Montero, Jennifer Soncini DMD 02, Liz Montero DMD 11

(lr) Bing Liu DScD 99 DMD 03 presents BU pin
GSDM Alumni Reception American Academy of Periodontology

(l-r) Iman Labib DMD 96 ENDO 01, Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter, Ms. Sam Ezzat, Mrs. Kathleen Hutter

(l-r) Mark Desrosiers ENDO 06, Ms. Susan Desrosiers, Howard Zolot PERIO 85, Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter

(l-r) Maria Weissman, Ron Weissman PROS77

(l-r) Bing Liu DMD 03, Mitch Sabbagh DMD 87, Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter

GSDM 2015 Goldman Gala
Martyn Green Perio 89 recently received a masters of science in health professions education from Loma Linda University and became the director of advanced periodontology at the University of Tennessee.

Parker Matthew Dekow was born to Amanda and Matthew Dekow DMD 14 and on December 19th at Darnall Army Medical Center on Fort Hood, TX. He was 6 lbs 5 oz.

Diana Paczesny ENDO 10 and husband Jaron Yao had a baby boy, Ceagan, born on December 31, 2014.

Alice Kennedy Chory was born to Dr. Dhafar Witwit DMD 14 and Dr. Roua Al Timimi DMD 15. Alice Kennedy Chory was born at 5:32pm on April 11, 2015 at Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital to Dr. Eamon Chory DMD 15 and Margaret Kennedy Chory. She is angling for a spot in BU GSDM Class of 2041 but she has long road before she gets there!

Parker Matthew Dekow

Iza Witwit was born to Dr. Dhafar Witwit DMD 14 and Dr. Roua Al Timimi DMD 15. Iza Witwit

Dylan James Dudum

Katherine and Daryl Dudum ENDO 10 had a baby boy, Dylan James Dudum. Born July 24, 2015.

Alice Kennedy Chory

Leyla Claire Raad was born in Walnut Creek, Calif. on February 3, 2015. She weighed 4 lbs 6.6 ounces and was 16.5 inches long. Proud parents Michel Raad PROS 08, Former Assistant Clinical Professor Department of Post Graduate Prosthodontics and Zeba Siddiq DMD 10 are hoping she will follow in her parents footsteps!

Left: Aadya Swarup DMD 15 and Divya Swarup DMD 15 had a baby girl, Aadya Swarup, on February 26, 2015.

Right: Mai Tran DMD 10 and Sean Regan welcomed baby boy Riley June 24, 2015.
Dr. Shafie PROS 95, director of postdoctoral implant training at the Washington Hospital Center oral surgery department in Washington DC, has released his second textbook entitled “Clinical and Laboratory Manual of Dental Implant Abutments.” His book was published and is currently being distributed globally by Wiley.

Dr. Thomas McCawley PERIO 69 is now accepting new patients without a referral for a revolutionary gum disease treatment in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. The LANAP protocol is an FDA-cleared technique that uses a laser to clear away bacteria and infection below the gum line rather than the scalpel and sutures of traditional gum surgery. The minimally invasive procedure offers a quicker recovery than traditional surgery with less pain and bleeding.

Dr. Malvika Tickoo DMD 06, was selected for inclusion in the publication, “The Leading Physicians of the World.” The International Association of Healthcare Professionals has recognized Dr. Tickoo for her ability to brighten not only the smiles, but the lives, of every patient she treats.

Dr. James R. McAraw PERIO 74, Dr. I.L. Canter PERIO 74, and Dr. Craig Foisie DMD 03 recently celebrated 35 years of placing dental implants at their office locations in Old Saybrook, Waterford and Madison, Conn. Their office was one of the first practices in Connecticut to offer implants.

Dr. Allan Hong DMD 04, and his Happy Dental practice in Montclair, Calif. recently launched a new website. The website was updated with content that will educate patients about options that are available to them, and how they can properly care for their teeth at all ages. The Happy Dental website also presents other informative content in the way of interactive, educational videos and a free Smile Gallery feature, to help patients make good decisions about oral health treatments. Current patients and those seeking dental care in Montclair can access information about dental providers and can even read over frequently asked questions when they visit the website.

Dr. Victor Leung DMD 95, of Foxboro Dental Associates, was recently featured in the Foxboro Reporter. The practice was noted for digital technology, flexible scheduling, and a friendly and welcoming atmosphere.

Dr. Gary Greenberg DMD 84 has taken ownership of Twin Rivers Dental in Easton, Penn. He previously operated a private practice in Florida from 1989 – 2010.
Amby was born August 23, 1942, in Pittsburgh, the son of Amberson Clark Bauer and Elizabeth (Hild) Bauer. Amby graduated from Allegheny College with honors and went on to study at the University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine, where he graduated from in 1968 with Magna Cum Laude honors.

Following dental school, he completed his advanced graduate degree in Orthodontia at Boston University. Amby was a partner with Bauer Mascia Orthodontics and had practices in Butler, Kittanning, Leechburg, Zelienople and Cranberry Township.

Amby was a member of many local and national dental societies, including the Dental Society of Western PA. He also practiced orthodontics for a short time in Florida. For over 30 years, he was a successful and hardworking orthodontist who loved caring for people and crafting beautiful smiles. He was beloved by his patients and staff.

Outside of work, Amby’s passions were his family and playing golf. He was a member of the Butler Country Club and the Oakmont Country Club, and his favorite people to play golf with were his three sons. Amby was an avid sports fan and a large supporter of the Pitt Panthers, earning himself the designation of “Golden Panther.” He was also a life-long Steelers and Penguins fan.

Sailing and horse racing were two of his other hobbies, and he was the proud owner of four race horses. Additionally, Amby loved spending time with his family, including his adoring wife, Carolyn, his sons, and all of his grandchildren. Each year he enjoyed spending his summers in Butler and his winters in Long Boat Key, Florida.

Despite an over 20-year-long battle with Parkinson’s disease, Amby remained positive and active throughout his life. He did not ever allow the disease to slow him down and became an inspiration to many. Amby will be deeply missed by his family and friends.

Dean’s Advisory Board Member Robert William Bennett COM 49, CMDR, RET, USN, of Fort Myers and formerly of Massachusetts passed away Saturday, November 8, 2014 at Hope Hospice HealthPark of Fort Myers. He was 87. Mr. Bennett was a highly decorated Commander in the US Navy. He enlisted during WWII at the age of 17 and retired after 25+ years of dedicated service.

Bob was a graduate of Boston University (COM 1949), the US. Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, CA & the US. Naval War College in Newport, RI. He received his MS degree in Political Science from George Washington University in 1964. After retiring from the US Navy, Bob was active in his community, serving as a government relations consultant.

He served as special assistant to former US Senator Leverett Saltonstall, the Director of the Bureau of International Trade & Assistant Secretary of Administration and Finance for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. In later years he worked on various Senate & Presidential election campaigns from Massachusetts to California.

From the late 1980’s until the mid 1990’s, he was Chief-of-Staff and White House Congressional Liaison at the American Legislative Exchange Council in Washington, DC.

He most recently served as a member of the Boston University Henry M Goldman School of Dental Medicine Board of Visitors, under Dean Frankl, and on Dean Hutter’s Advisory Board.

Bob was born March 17, 1927 in Cambridge, MA to the late Nicholas DiBenedetti and Catherine C. (Cronin) DiBenedetti.

He is survived by his wife of 28 years, Marian S. Barber Bennett; daughter, Janice L. Preston of Beverly, MA; sons, Robert W. Bennett II of Harrisonburg, VA, Jeffrey S. Bennett of Beverly, MA, Keith J. Bennett of Beverly, MA and Mark V. Bennett of Hawaii. He is also survived by 2 brothers, Alfred E. DiBenedetti & Paul E. DiBenedetti, 14 grandchildren, 15 great grandchildren, 3 great-great grandchildren, 3 step children, his former wife, Constance L. (Izzo) Bennett, and many nieces and nephews. Bob was also predeceased by his sister, Josephine (DiBenedetti) Pupi and his brother Nicholas DiBenedetti.

Graveside services with full military honors were held on Friday, March 27, 2015 at Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Va.

Stuart M. Lehman OMFS 61, of Mashpee, formerly of Framingham and Sudbury, on Friday, April 4, 2014. Beloved husband of Bette (Schefrin) Lehman. Loving father of Jane E. Lehman & Matthew Winter of CT, Kenneth M. & Susan Lehman of Lexington and Andrew L. Lehman & Jennifer Freaney of CT. Adored grandfather of David & Meg, Robert, Michael, Kate, Kara, Scott, Daniel and Jude. Born and raised in Newark, NJ, Stuart Lehman raised his family in New England. He loved sailing and skiing and was respected in his field of oral and maxillofacial surgery.

David Gary Papuga PERIO 69, age 77, of Norwell, passed away on January 12, 2015 at home surrounded by loved ones. Dr. Papuga was the husband of the late Carol Ann (Forcht) and the devoted father of David C. Papuga of Hanover and the late Damon B. Papuga and the late Kristen Ann Papuga. He was the adored grandfather of Rose Papuga and Kristen Ann Papuga, as well as the great-grandfather of Sophie Papuga Gallagher and Shane Papuga Gallagher.

Dr. Papuga was born in Cleveland, OH. A Graduate of Cathedral Latin High School, Class of 1955, he was part of an outstanding football team that won a state championship and was later inducted into the Ohio High School Football Hall of Fame. Dr. Papuga attended, Univ. of Dayton, OH and received a B.S. from Ohio Univ. He graduated with his DDS from Case Western Univ. and Boston University School of Graduate Dentistry, with a specialty training in Periodontology. Dr. Papuga was a member of the South Shore Dental and Mass. Dental Societies, as well as the American Dental Assoc. and American Academy of Periodontology.

Dr. Papuga served in the US Air Force, being honorably discharged at the rank of Captain. He was a world traveler, avid
cyclist, talented photographer and a race car buff.

Frederick L. Randall ORTHO 75, of Chestnut Hill and Mashpee, formerly of Waban, passed away on February 3, 2015, after a 7-year fight against kidney cancer. He died peacefully at home surrounded by his loving family. He was born February 22, 1939. He was the beloved husband of Harriet Fink Randall, the devoted father of Jacque Sherman and her husband Michael and Douglas Randall and his wife Michelle. Adored Papa of Gabrielle and Nathan Sherman and Ella and Max Randall. Loving brother-in-law of Rita and Stanley Waldstein and Lois and Lee Miller. Survived by loving nieces Marcy Kiely, Wendy Sims, and Bobby Waldstein. He was the son of the late Max and Nettie Randall and grew up attending Boston Schools, graduated from Boston College (1960), Tufts University School of Dental Medicine (1964), Boston University Graduate School of Dentistry and served a rotating internship at Philadelphia General Hospital. He is a past president of the Tufts Dental Alumni Association and the Boston Chapter of Alpha Omega Dental Fraternity. He was a member of the Northeastern Orthodontic Association, a 50-year member of the American Dental Society and participated in several local and national dental and orthodontic organizations. He enjoyed being with friends and family, taking courses, playing golf, tennis, bridge, traveling and attending his grandson Nathan’s sports games. He is a past member of Congregation Mishkan Telilia of Chestnut Hill. He practiced orthodontics in Brockton and Newton.

John L. Santopolo ENDO 78, AAE Life Member of Woodmere, N.Y., passed away on January 6, 2015, at the age of 65. He was struck by two cars as he was crossing the street near his office.

Dr. Santopolo was the founder and president of Long Island Endodontics and had been in private practice for more than 30 years. A leader in the implementation of new technologies in the field of endodontics, Dr. Santopolo was one of the first in New York to perform endodontic procedures with the aid of an oroscope. He frequently lectured throughout the east coast and published articles on various topics, including stem cell technology, the single tooth anesthesia system and the YAP Laser. In addition to maintaining a full-time practice, he was active in organized dentistry, serving as former president of the New York Endodontic Association, former president and treasurer of the Nassau County Dental Society, and former governor and delegate for the New York State Dental Association. He will be greatly missed.

James “Jamie” Arden Thomas, Jr. ENDO 88, after a brief illness, passed away April 20, 2015 in Denver, Colorado with his family at his side. Jamie was born to Ethel Faye (“Tot”) Tomlin Thomas and Dr. James Arden Thomas, Sr. in Ada, Oklahoma. At Ada High School, Jamie was a star scholar-athlete and was named to the All-State football team his senior year. As a scholarship football player at the University of Oklahoma, Jamie was a three-year letterman on teams that won two national championships, including the 1975 national title team on which Jamie was starting linebacker and defensive captain.

Preceding him in death were his parents, James and Tot Thomas. Survivors include: sisters Mary Ann Lamb and husband Scott of Sunbright TN; Sandy Reece of Denver CO; nephews Thomas Brett Reece and family, Leena, Riley, Canon, and Travis of Denver CO; Ernest Cody Reece and family, Liz, Connor, and Brady, also of Denver CO; aunt Donna Tomlin of San Antonio TX; cousins Joe K. Thomas and wife, Rita of Poteau OK; Linda Kulp and husband Victor of Tulsa OK; Janet Pitt of Oklahoma City OK; Annette Henry of New Mexico; Linda Young of Texas; and numerous other cousins and many caring friends throughout the U.S. and across continents whose friendship Jamie cherished, including his close friend, Ana Jean Marfa of Chiang Mai, Thailand.

After completing his football career and graduating from OU with a B.S. degree in Microbiology, Jamie pursued his interest in health sciences and graduated from the Oklahoma College of Dentistry. His first professional position was in Tulsa, OK where he was a staff dentist at the Hissom Memorial Center for children with mental disabilities. Two years later, he was admitted to Boston University for post-graduate studies where he completed his M.S. degree in Endodontics Dentistry. Jamie remained in Boston for several years as a member of the Boston University faculty and established a local endodontics practice. Thereafter, Jamie relocated to California and pursued his endodontics practice in Santa Barbara, later in Anaheim, and then Ukiah CA. Acting on his avid interest in foreign travel, Jamie qualified to practice endodontics in numerous foreign jurisdictions. As such, he practiced and taught general dentistry and endodontics in Australia, New Zealand, and later in Chiang Mai, Thailand. He was thankful for the numerous friends that were able to accept his enthusiastic invitations to visit him during his residencies in such special places abroad.

Notwithstanding his accomplishments in sports, in academics and professionally, Jamie was extraordinarily humble, kind and generous. He possessed an infectious wit and loveable sense of humor that was often accentuated by a burst of hearty laughter that was uniquely Jamie and endearing to all. To get to know Jamie was a pleasure; and once you knew him, he was not someone you could forget. Jamie never sought luxuries or social status. Extraordinary for these times in which we live, Jamie was incredibly frugal and not motivated by possessions. He truly appreciated and sought life’s simpler pleasures, and deliberately avoided unnecessary clutter. He readily enjoyed playing catch with his nephews in the front yard, and was easily satisfied to merely spend time with his family and many friends, wherever they might be. Jamie will be greatly missed.
Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine recognizes and thanks the following donors who contributed to the School between July 1, 2014, and June 30, 2015.

$1m–$4.9m
The Estate of Dr. Oreste D. Zanni

$100,000–$249,999
Dr. Donald F. Booth

$50,000–$99,999
Boston University Oral Surgery Group Practice
Ms. Ruth B. Pearson

$25,000–$49,999
Drs. Nanarao and Padmaja Krothapalli

$10,000–$24,999
Drs. Hussam M. Batal and Arghavan Shahidi
Dr. Radhika Chigurupati
Dr. Sudha S. Chinta and Mr. Suryanaryana M. Chinta
Dr. Timothy S. Colton
Dr. Richard D’Innocenzo
Dr. and Mrs. Raymond George
Dr. Katherine A. Haltom
Dr. Judith A. Jones
Dr. Burton Langer
Dr. and Mrs. Jonathan B. Levine
Dr. and Mrs. David P. Lustbader
Dr. Pushkar Mehra
Drs. Ernesto M. and Vera Klein Muller
Dr. Timothy Osborn
Dr. Mina Paul and Mr. Ajay Saini
Dr. Andrew R. Salama
Dr. Ronald G. Weissman
Gentle Dental

$5,000–$9,999
Dr. Gennaro L. Cataldo
Dr. John F. Guarante
Dr. Hikmat G. Hannawi
Dr. and Mrs. Robert L. Ibsen
Dr. Suneel C. Kandru and Ms. Santhi Kilaru
Dr. Robert J. Miller

Dr. Frank G. Oppenheimer
Drs. Casey V. Pedro and Jamilly F. Pedro
Ms. Sonya Salisbury
Dr. Anthony J. Terrana
Dr. Cheryl L. Ullman

$2,500–$4,999
Dr. Nazila Bidabadi
Dr. David G. Burros, Southern Arizona Endodontics, PC
Dr. Joseph M. Calabrese and Mrs. Michele A. Calabrese
Dr. Gilman W. Carr
Drs. Shadi Daher and Milagros Serrano
Dr. Raul I. Garcia
Dr. and Mrs. William M. Gordon
Dr. Ralph D. Hawkins
Dr. John R. Hughes, Southern Arizona Endodontics, PC
Dr. Pumee Kochhar
Dr. Iman S. Labib
Dr. Cataldo W. Leone
Dr. Bing Liu
Drs. Monique Mabry and Jonathan S. Bamel
Dr. Celeste Kong and Mr. William L. Maness
Dr. Peter A. Morgan
Drs. Josephine C. Pandolfo and Spino S. Saati
Dr. Loubna C. Pia
Dr. Sean A. Raymond
Dr. Stephen J. Reichheld
Ms. Leila Joy Rosenthal
Dr. Angela V. Ross
Drs. Ronni A. Schnell and Richard A. Short
Dr. Tina M. Valades and Mr. Ralph D. Tullberg
Dr. John D. West

$1,000–$2,499
Dr. D. Wayne Acheson

Drs. Craig M. Allen and Nicole J. Paquette, Allen Dental Associates, P.C.
Dr. Anthony V. Amato
Dr. Eric G. Anderson
Dr. Raphael G. P. Bellamy
Dr. Arthur L. Berger, Advanced Endodontic Associates, P.A.
Dr. Alan Berko
Dr. Jhujhar S. Bhandra, Progressive Endodontics Of Greece
Dr. Paul R. Bianchi
Dr. Howard Bittner
Dr. Eric W. Blanda, Emerald Coast Endodontics LLC
Dr. William D. Brizze, Las Vegas Endodontics
Dr. G. Matthew Brocks
Dr. Louis M. Brown
Dr. Susan M. Camacho
Dr. Timothy P. Carter
Dr. Wendy R. Cheney
Dr. Russel K. Christensen, Las Vegas Endodontics
Dr. Douglas W. Conn
Dr. Jason T. Conn
Dr. Thomas J. DeMarco
Dr. Alan K. DerKazarian
Dr. Stephen M. Desrosiers
Drs. John V. Dolbec, Hingham Endodontics, P.C.
Dr. Stephen G. Dickson
Dr. Bobby D. Dumas
Drs. Khadjam and M. Fadoul
Dr. Katrina A. Farnsworth
Dr. Daniel P. Fiske
Dr. John R. Fitzgibbon
Dr. Howard G. Glassman
Dr. D. Wayne Acheson

$1–$599
Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Goldman
Dr. Jeffrey J. Grossman
Drs. Xiaohze Han and Li Wang
Dr. Ralph E. Harris, III
Drs. Dean M. and Yone V. Hauserman III, Southern Arizona Endodontics, PC
Dr. Michael S. Hauser
Dr. Gregory G. Hein
Dr. John P. Hoover, Jr.
Dr. Geri R. Hunter
Dean and Mrs. Jeffrey W. Hutter
Dr. Sok-Ja Janket
Dr. Tarun Jhamb
Mr. Charles S. Karp and Ms. Sharon Karp
Ms. Nancy R. Karp
Drs. Ghasan A. Khoury and Thenia Kazou
Dr. Samer G. Khayat
Dr. Thomas B. Kilgore
Dr. Joan H. Kimball and Glenn P. Kimball
Dr. Roger R. LaCoste, Southcoast Endodontics, P.C.
Dr. Kenny A. Lam, Webster Square Dental Care
Dr. Ted Lee
Dr. Euger Lin, Marlborough Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery
Dr. Benjamin F. Locke
Dr. Franklin G. Locke, Apex Endodontics of Tennessee
Dr. Charles T. Lea, Ridgewood Endodontics, LLC
Dr. Philip L. Maloney
Ms. Madalyn L. Mann
Mr. Timothy W. McDonough
Dr. Ira Blake McKinley, Sr.
Dr. Seymour Melnick
Dr. Marshall J. Michaelian
Dr. Wallin H. Myers
Dr. Thomas Nasser
Dr. Dan Nathanson
Dr. Peter C. Niarhos

Donors in alphabetical order by last name.
Alumni

Dr. Pallavi Chellur of Connecticut
Dr. Jonathan S. Chase
Dr. Woo Young Chang
Dr. Pelly Chang
Dr. F. Kenneth Gott, Jr.
Dr. Rana T. Gorgis
Dr. Johnny Gonzalez
Dr. Shepard S. Goldstein
Dr. Dr. H. N. Duhaney
Dr. James H. Dynes
Dr. Roohi Ebrahaj
Dr. Lea El Hachem
Dr. Ahmed H. El Zanfaly
Dr. Richard W. Elggren
Ms. Maria El-Husseini
Dr. Armand M. Enos, Jr.
Dr. Jonathan C. Enright
Dr. Kristi E. Erickson
Dr. Assia F. Fain, Lakeside Dental
Dr. Stephen J. Falco, Jr.
Dr. Robert J. Farbman
Dr. Usman Fazli
Dr. Baher Khaled M. Felemen
Dr. Mark S. Ferriero
Dr. Cary N. Feuerman
Dr. Arthur H. Fieman
Dr. Mohammad Filali
Dr. James W. Fisher, Endodontics
Dr. Usman Grover
Dr. Simran Grover
Dr. Robert E. Grover
Dr. C. S. Gulrich
Dr. Abhishek Gupta
Dr. Sharon R. Gupta
Dr. Jonathan M. Gutman
Drs. Sergio Guzman and Carolina Mujica
Dr. Sam J. Halabe
Dr. John T. Hancock, Mullaney, Hancock and Koscoso, P.A.
Dr. Shruuti Handa
Dr. Sail G. Hanna
Dr. Francis A. Harrington
Drs. Mohammad H. Dashti and Roxana Hashemian
Dr. Phillip W. Head
Ms. Kathleen E. Held
Dr. Alfo J. Hernandez-Camarillo
Dr. Vince Hicks
Dr. Jay T. Hodge
Dr. Gary S. Hoffman
Ponte Vecchio, LLC
Mr. Kevin G. Holland and Dr. Michael Mason
Dr. Margaret J. Howard
Dr. Tun-Yi Hsu
Dr. Fred Hsu
Dr. Andy T. Hsu
Dr. Xingxue Hu
Dr. Lijuan Huang
Dr. Zhiqiang Huang
Ms. Zhan Huang
Dr. Misi Huang
Ms. Jamie L. Hubert
Dr. Syed Hasan M. Husaini
Dr. Eunhae Hvang
Dr. John Ictech-Cassisi
Dr. Destinee Ingroa
Dr. Sheldon J. Itzkowitz, Attleboro Periodontics & Implantology
Dr. Khushboo Jain
Dr. Monica Jain
Dr. Rohit James
Dr. Barry M. Jaye
Dr. Rena Jhuty
Dr. Suo Ji
Dr. Wenhui Jiang
Drs. Shyam Sunder S. Jindal and
Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine thanks the following corporations for their contributions during fiscal year 2015.

3M Company
Ace Surgical Supply Co., Inc.
Acteon North America
Advanced Dental Technologies Inc.
Align Technology, Inc.
American Association of Endodontists Foundation
American College of Dentists
Arcari Dental Laboratory, Inc.
ASI Medical, Inc.
Aspen Dental
B & L Biotech USA Inc.
Bicon Dental Implants
Biogen Foundation
Biomet 3i LLC
Brasseler USA Dental, LLC
Coltene/Whaledent Inc.
Creative Dental Enterprises Inc.
Creative Dental Images Inc.
Delta Dental of Tennessee
Dental Dreams LLC
DENTSPLY Endodontics
Eastern Dentists Insurance Company
Elmwood Sports Center Inc.
Farmington Insurance Agency, Inc.
Gentle Dental
Henry Schein Inc.
Hu-Friedy Mfg. Co., LLC.
Insmed Insurance Agency, Inc.
Ivoclar Vivadent Inc.
KLS MARTIN L.P.
Massachusetts Dental Society
Nobel Biocare USA, LLC
North Shore Dental Laboratories Inc.
OMSNIC
Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery Foundation
ORMCO Corporation
The Procter & Gamble Company
Patterson Companies, Inc.
Rodman Ford Sales Inc.
SDI Inc.
Sirona Dental, Inc.
Sjogren’s Syndrome Foundation
Societa Italiana di Chirurgia Orale e Implantologia
Southern Arizona Endodontics, PC
Straumann U.S.A.
Stryker Craniomaxillofacial
Sweden & Martina, Inc.
TDO
Triodent Corporation
Whip Mix Corporation
The following donors contributed to the 2015 Class Gift, the highest amount to date donated to the School by a graduating class.

Hebatallah A. Abbas
Passant Abdelmegeed
Sulekha Agrawal
Varsha Ahuja
Layth K. Al Kaissy
Roua T. Al Timimi
Omar Alazizi
Hussain A. Alisarraf
Smrity Amatya
Christopher L. Atchison
Sana Banday
Ankita Bansal
Adam Barsourn
Richa P. Bhatt
Puneet Brar
Amanda M. Brogley
Paola A. Buckley
David Bukala
Julian R. Camastra
Geoffrey Carignan
Christopher F. Chan
Woo Young Chang
Qian Chen
Jasmine Chopra
Christopher Connell
Pallavi Dahake
Rushil Rajiv Dang
Michelle DaRocha
Adrian R. De Vincenzo
Mawra Dhamothenaran Kumar
Nimrat Dhillon
Charles Dicosimo
Shilpa Diwan
Michelle Dube
Ahmed H. El Zarfaly
Jonathan C. Enright
David Garazi
Matthew J. Garcia
Johnny Gonzalez
Abhishek Gupta
Sharon R. Shinde
Shruti Handa
Saif G. Hanna
Xingxue Hu
Syed Hasan M. Husaini
Eunhae Hwang
Destinee Ingrao
Khushboo Jain
Monica Jain
Rena Jhuty
Wenhui Jiang
Jennifer Jung
Shraddha B. Kamat
Justine A. Karanian
Brahmleen Kaur
Navneet Kaur
Golnaz Kavand
Farhan Naeem Khan
Shireen O. Khan
Zainab Khan
Jeongyun Kim
Sachin V. Kocharekar
Abhiroop Kotha
Hedieh Kousedghi
Sai Ramani Krishna Kumar
Padmaja Krothapalli
Arun Kumar
Sean Langton
Amal Lattof
Michael Lee
Brian Leibtlog
Derek L. Leung
Stephanie C. Leung
Jie Liu
Yanling Liu
Yin Liu
Shan Lo
Antonio Maceda-Johnson
Reefat Malhotra
Andrew H. Mancini
Keely Matheson
Amit Merchant
Jessica E. Metcalfe
Daniel Moynihan
Olufunke A. Osineye
Ashish Paqneja
Ryan J. Pasiewicz
Dhaval R. Patel
Kaushal R. Patel
Sonal C. Patel
Federico J. Perez
Andrew Pham
Snehal D. Pingle
Manum Qureshi
Richa Rashmi
Adam H. Robbins
Marianella Romero Zamora
Michael Russo
Venkata Naga Sri Kanthi Saladi
Ramandeep Samra
Amrita Sandhu
Samita Sandhu
Sara Saremi
Archana Selvaraj
Himanshu V. Shah
Meghna V. Shah
Ali Basha Shaik
Shivani Shrigavi
Manisha Singh
Deepa Sulochana Sivasankaranagasman
Lyle E. Smith
Neha Sood
Andrew M. Soule-Hinds
Zhi Sun
Azeez G. Swarup
Divya Swarup
Ruchee Taneja
John Tesoriero
Bernadete C. Theriault
Vedasri Thodupunoori
Diana M. Torres Cardona
Divya Upadhyay
Maria I. Vasilakos
John Vasko
Venkata S. Velagapudi
Na Wei
Nikhil Whig
Joshua Williams
Wanpeng Xu
Yoshika E. Yamamoto
Onas M. Younis
Farha Zameer
## Giving Day FY 2015

Dear Fellow Alumni:

This time of year is a time of endings and a time of new beginnings. We just celebrated the commencement of the students and residents of the Class of 2015 with so much hope and bright futures to look forward to. We are also still mourning the loss of our dear colleague and friend Dr. Oreste Zanni, who passed away suddenly, doing what he loved to do best in the setting that he loved most. We are also blessed with the opportunity to celebrate the legacy of Dr. Zanni with his estate planning bequest to GSDM. Dr. Zanni’s gift should serve as an inspiration for all GSDM alumni to consider including the School in their estate planning. The impact that this gift will have on both Perio students (his scholarship) and our patients (in the to-be-named clinic) is significant and it is our responsibility as stewards of our alma mater to consider what we can do with our own philanthropy to assist future dentists and our patients.

Through my service with GSDM and other organizations with which I am involved, I have seen the tremendous power of planned giving. We always hear about the prominent names in philanthropy who leave lasting legacies, but planned gifts are the major gifts of the middle class, as well. Such gifts, cumulatively, have a significant impact. These gifts also have great meaning for the donors themselves. When it is part of estate planning, planned giving can offer a way to help donors take care of their families in ways not otherwise available to them, and yet still provide support to the causes that are meaningful to them that they wish to honor.

I have spent my training and most of my career at Boston University, where I can attribute much of my success. My husband and I met as students at GSDM and one of our children attended Boston University (SMG), as well. We have always been committed to giving back in many ways; through service, education, and now, legacy planning.

Congratulations to our graduates. I wish you all the best and invite you to join us at Alumni Weekend this September.

Sincerely,

Ronni Schnell DMD 81
Clinical Professor, Department of General Dentistry
Director, Division of Pre-doctoral Removable Prosthodontics