



2024

**UB** University at Buffalo  
The State University of New York

COMMENCEMENT PROGRAM 2024  
ONE HUNDRED THIRTIETH ANNUAL



SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE  
**C O M M E N C E M E N T**

Friday

May 3, 2024

3:00 PM

Center for the Arts Mainstage Theatre

North Campus

Marcelo W. B. Araujo, DDS, MS, PhD

Dean



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

# Program

## Processional

Selections from Pomp and Circumstance  
by *Edward Elgar*

## Academic Mace Bearer and Educator of the Year

Latifa Bairam, BDS, MS  
Clinical Associate Professor and Clinic Group  
Leader

## Marshals

Samuel D. Carocci, DDS  
Joseph T. DeLuca, DDS  
Brendan Dowd, DDS

## Herald

Tammy Thompson, DDS

## Opening Declaration

Professor Bairam

## Welcome

Professor Thompson

## National Anthem

Kira Whitehead  
*BFA, Music Theatre '24*

## Introduction of Platform Party

Marcelo W. B. Araujo, DDS, MS, PhD  
Dean

## Greetings

Satish K. Tripathi, PhD  
University President

## Dean's Address

Dean Araujo

## Awards Presentation

Dean Araujo

## Commencement Address

Christopher H. Fox, DMD, DMSc  
Chief Executive Officer, AADOCR and IADR

## Educator of the Year Address

Professor Bairam

## Student Address

Shivam Jauhar  
President  
Class of 2024

## Recommending of Candidates

Dean Araujo

## Conferring of Degrees

President Tripathi

## Readers

Debra L. Stamm, PhD  
Eugena Stephan, DDS, PhD

## Hooding

Dean Araujo

## Dentist's Pledge

Dean Araujo

## Alumni Address

Joseph T. DeLuca, DDS '07  
President  
UB School of Dental Medicine Alumni Association

## Alma Mater

Emory Redfearn

## Closing Declaration

Professor Bairam

## Recessional

Triumphal March from Aida by Giuseppe Verdi

# SUNY Trustee and UB Officials

## Eunice Ashman Lewin

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



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

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

A former commissioner of the Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority, Lewin was a founding member of the Roswell Park Alliance and a board member of the Buffalo Urban League and Hispanics United of Buffalo. She is a member of the Hispanic Women's League and the Greater Buffalo Racial Equity Roundtable. In 2022, Lewin was named co-chair of the 5/14 Remembrance Committee to honor the mass shooting victims of the May 14 tragedy in East Buffalo.

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

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

## Jeremy M. Jacobs

*Chairman of the University at Buffalo Council*



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

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

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

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

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

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

## Satish K. Tripathi

*University President*



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

Tripathi, who served as UB's provost from 2004-2011, was dean of the Bourns College of Engineering at the University of California, Riverside, from 1997-2004. Previously, he spent 19 years as professor of computer science at the University of Maryland, including seven years as department chair.

In 2024, Tripathi was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. A fellow of IEEE and AAAS, he has published more than 200 scholarly papers, supervised more than 30 doctoral and postdoctoral students and served on program committees of numerous international conferences.

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

Tripathi is co-chair of the Association of American Universities (AAU) Task Force on Expanding U.S.-India University Partnerships, and he serves on the College Football Playoff Board of Managers. Previously, he was chair of the Mid-American Conference Council of Presidents and Internet 2. He also served on the boards of the AAU, the NCAA Division I, the NCAA Board of Governors, the Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation.

## **A. Scott Weber**

*Provost and Executive Vice President  
for Academic Affairs*



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

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

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

Weber serves on New York's Hazardous Waste Facility Siting Board for Chemical Waste Management. He is a former board member and current advisory committee member of the United Way of Buffalo and Erie County.

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

## **Allison Brashear**

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



Allison Brashear, MD, MBA, a world-renowned neurologist, is reshaping academic medicine at UB. As vice president for health sciences and dean of the Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, she promotes

collaboration and integration across health sciences disciplines, while also leading UBMD Physicians' Group as president and CEO.

Brashear's visionary approach drives health care innovation locally and nationally, and she is a passionate advocate for patients. Her impactful research has led to the approval of three botulinum toxin treatments for conditions like post-stroke spasticity. Continuously funded by the National Institutes of Health since 2008, she is a leading expert in ATP1A3-related diseases, a spectrum of rare neurologic disorders.

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

Brashear earned her medical degree and completed her neurology residency at Indiana University School of Medicine. She earned her MBA, focused on health-sector management, at Fuqua School of Business at Duke University.

Beyond her professional roles, she is a trustee of the McKnight Brain Research Foundation and immediate past vice chair of the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology. Additionally, her election to the AAMC Council of Deans Administrative Board allows her to shape national strategies that impact the country's medical schools. She is also a board member of the Western New York Women's Foundation.

## **Marcelo W.B. Araujo**

*Dean of the School of Dental Medicine*



Marcelo Araujo, DDS, MS '99, PhD '03, dean of the University at Buffalo School of Dental Medicine, is a distinguished academic leader, esteemed professor of periodontology and proud

UB alumnus. An internationally recognized clinical researcher and epidemiologist, he joined the school in 2023 as its 14th dean.

Prior to joining UB as dean and professor, Araujo was the chief science officer of the American Dental Association (ADA), chief executive officer of the ADA Science & Research Institute (ADASRI), and interim chief executive officer of the ADA Foundation (ADAF). These influential roles allowed him to cultivate strategic insights and develop expertise in organized dentistry. He also held positions in the pharmaceutical industry, where he made a significant impact in health care products research for more than a decade.

Araujo's extensive experience in clinical care, research, health care business and health sciences complements his deep understanding of the opportunities and challenges in dentistry. His emphasis on leveraging the power and science of innovation enhances the school's academic, research, and clinical endeavors while improving its national and global rankings and reputation.

Araujo earned a PhD in epidemiology and community health and a master's degree in oral sciences from UB, where he also completed a fellowship in periodontology clinical research and teaching. He received his DDS in 1995 and a certificate in periodontology in 1997 from Universidade Gama Filho in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.



## Commencement Speaker

### Christopher H. Fox

Chief Executive Officer, AADOCR and IADR



Christopher H. Fox is the Chief Executive Officer of the International Association for Dental, Oral, and Craniofacial Research (IADR) and the American Association for Dental, Oral, and Craniofacial Research (AADOCR). Dr. Fox completed his dental, post graduate and clinical studies at Harvard University, receiving a DMD, a Master of Science in Epidemiology, a Doctorate of Medical Sciences in Oral Biology and Oral Epidemiology,

and completed residencies in Periodontology and Dental Public Health. He is a Fellow of the American Association for Dental, Oral, and Craniofacial Research and the American Academy for the Advancement of Science and has received the Harvard School of Dental Medicine Distinguished Alumnus Award.

Dr. Fox's research and policy interests are to maintain the science-base of the dental profession which must include myriad pathways for a diverse scientific workforce, particularly dental clinical scientists, and that science, research, and critical thinking remain integrated in the dental school curriculum. IADR and AADOCR have brought attention to the need for research to inform the global oral health policy agenda, the role of preventive interventions, and the need to address global oral health inequities.

## Shay Bowen Memorial Fund

The School of Dental Medicine gratefully acknowledges the Shay Bowen Memorial Fund for support of our commencement keynote speaker. Mrs. Hazel (Shay) Park Bowen joined UB in 1971 as Administrative Assistant to the Dean of the School of Dental Medicine, a position she held for over 20 years. To that role, she brought the high standards of professionalism, loyalty and thoughtfulness for which she is remembered so fondly by former students, faculty and staff. One of Shay's lasting accomplishments was the initiative she undertook to refine the School's commencement ceremonies. Through the Shay Bowen Memorial Fund, her family and friends have ensured that the example of her special talents and contributions will live on.

## Candidates for Degrees

*Subject to the completion of all degree requirements, degrees will be conferred as indicated upon those individuals listed herein who were identified by April 1, 2024, and upon such others as may meet the requirements of their respective degrees. Candidates are listed according to actual date of degree conferral (February 2024 and June 2024). Degree recipients will come forward to be congratulated during the commencement ceremony.*

### Latin Honors

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

### Legend

Cum laude is denoted by •

Magna cum laude is denoted by ••

Summa cum laude is denoted by •••

# Doctor of Dental Surgery Degrees

## Recommending Candidates for Degrees

Marcelo W. B. Araujo, DDS, MS, PhD  
Dean

### February 1, 2024

Aadil Iqbal

### June 1, 2024

Dara Ahmadnia  
Private Practice  
Crenshaw, California

Abdulhafedh Ahmed Al-Gahuri  
General Practice Residency  
University of Rochester - Eastman Institute  
for Oral Health  
Rochester, New York

Imran Ali Alidina  
Private Practice  
Austin, Texas

Satyavrat Arya •  
Private Practice  
Vandalia, Ohio

Anusha Atique  
Private Practice  
Norwalk, Connecticut

Duha Bayati

Manasa Bhavana  
Private Practice  
Dallas, Texas

Cailen Marie Blaire  
Private Practice  
New Castle, Pennsylvania

Sabrina Rose Blaskovic •••  
Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics  
Residency  
University of Rochester - Eastman Institute  
for Oral Health  
Rochester, New York

Michael Gabriel Bobak  
Advanced Education in General Dentistry  
Veterans Administration Medical Center -  
Buffalo  
Buffalo, New York

Casey Samantha Brand •  
Orthodontics Residency  
University of Colorado  
Denver, Colorado

Robert Campbell  
Advanced Education in General Dentistry  
Maine Veterans Administration Medical  
Center  
Togus, Maine

Erin Sue Cannon  
Pediatric Dental Residency  
Cohen Children's Hospital at Long Island  
Jewish Medical Center  
New Hyde Park, New York

Kaila Brooke Chavis  
Advanced Education in General Dentistry  
East Carolina University School of Dental  
Medicine - Clinic  
Lumberton, North Carolina

Bhavneet Kaur Chawla  
Private Practice  
Turnersville, New Jersey

Emma Elizabeth Chubb  
Orthodontics Residency  
University at Buffalo School of Dental  
Medicine  
Buffalo, New York

Maital Sara Citron  
General Practice Residency  
Jersey Shore University Medical Center  
Neptune, New Jersey

Daniel Joseph Clark  
General Practice Residency  
Allegheny General Hospital  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Gagandeep Singh Dang  
Private Practice  
Madison, Wisconsin

Myagmarjav Dashnyam  
Private Practice  
Winchester, Virginia

Simone Rose DeBellis  
Pediatric Dental Residency  
Stony Brook University  
Stony Brook, New York

Matthew Qiancong Deng •••  
General Practice Residency  
Massachusetts General Hospital  
Boston, Massachusetts

Apurva Dhengle  
Private Practice  
Austin, Texas

Connor James Dolce  
Advanced Education in General Dentistry  
University of California, Los Angeles -  
Westwood  
Los Angeles, California

Yara Mohamed Elsayed  
Private Practice  
Sterling, Virginia

Sara Emara  
General Practice Residency  
Jersey City Medical Center  
Jersey City, New Jersey

Vanessa Finazzo •••  
General Practice Residency  
Northwell Health - North Shore University  
Hospital  
Manhasset, New York

Zinaida Aleksandrovna Fomenko  
Private Practice  
Houston, Texas

Vincent Michael Gagliardo III •  
Advanced Education in General Dentistry  
Veterans Administration Medical Center -  
Buffalo  
Buffalo, New York



# Doctor of Dental Surgery Degrees

Shruti Gajbhiye  
*Pediatric Dental Residency*  
*University of Rochester - Eastman Institute*  
*for Oral Health*  
Rochester, New York

Gerliz Ann Cabling Garcia  
*Private Practice*  
Hillsborough, New Jersey

Leena Garg ••  
*Private Practice*  
Jacksonville, North Carolina

Matthew Brian Giangreco  
*General Practice Residency*  
*Erie County Medical Center*  
Buffalo, New York

Vincenzo Louis Gramuglia •  
*Orthodontics Residency*  
*Medical University of South Carolina*  
Charleston, South Carolina

Balraj Grewal  
*Oral Maxillofacial Surgery Internship*  
*University of Cincinnati*  
Cincinnati, Ohio

Elaheh Habibi  
*Private Practice*  
Jacksonville, Florida

Bailey Cooper Haines  
*General Practice Residency*  
*Albert Einstein Medical Center*  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Gene Hong •  
*Private Practice*  
Richmond, Virginia

Stephanie Hsu  
*Pediatric Dental Residency*  
*Nemours Children's Hospital*  
Wilmington, Delaware

Jiaqi Huang  
*Advanced Education in General Dentistry*  
*University at Buffalo School of Dental*  
*Medicine*  
Buffalo, New York

Kyrosos Nazih Ibrahim  
*Private Practice*  
Boston, Massachusetts

Bruce Enrique Imbacuan  
*Private Practice*  
Cleveland, Ohio

Adam Jaczynski  
*General Practice Residency*  
*Woodhull Medical Center*  
Brooklyn, New York

Okba Jahjah •  
*Private Practice*  
Roseburg, Oregon

Natalia Jakacki  
*Prosthodontics Residency*  
*Veterans Administration Greater Los Angeles*  
*Healthcare System*  
West Los Angeles, California

Shivam Jauhar  
*General Practice Residency*  
*Northwell Health - North Shore University*  
*Hospital*  
Manhasset, New York

Matthew Thomas Kaiser  
*Advanced Education in General Dentistry*  
*University of North Carolina Adams School*  
*of Dentistry*  
Chapel Hill, North Carolina

Pauline Kalta •••  
*General Practice Residency*  
*Morristown Medical Center*  
Morristown, New Jersey

Sarah B Kamil  
*Advanced Education in General Dentistry*  
*University of Rochester - Eastman Institute*  
*for Oral Health*  
Rochester, New York

Kelsey Donohue Kearns  
*General Practice Residency*  
*St. Charles Hospital*  
Port Jefferson, New York

Moiz Khan  
*General Practice Residency*  
*Roswell Park Cancer Institute/SUNY Buffalo*  
Buffalo, New York

Ramesh Khorsand

Anum Khurshid  
*Private Practice*  
Atlanta, Georgia

Joseph McKoy Lamantia  
*United States Navy Dental Corps*

Andy Thach Dinh Le  
*Private Practice*  
Sarasota, Florida

Christopher Andrew Lepore •••  
*Advanced Education in General Dentistry*  
*Veterans Administration Medical Center -*  
*Buffalo*  
Buffalo, New York

John Lepore  
*General Practice Residency*  
*Rochester General Hospital*  
Rochester, New York

Olivia F. Longhouse  
*General Practice Residency*  
*New York Presbyterian Brooklyn Methodist*  
*Hospital*  
Brooklyn, New York

Nathaniel Edward Lyons •  
*General Practice Residency*  
*University Hospital - SUNY Upstate Medical*  
*University*  
Syracuse, New York

Tyler Lyons  
*Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery Internship*  
*Louisiana State University*  
New Orleans, Louisiana

Renard Ruigi Anatalio Macasaet  
*Private Practice*  
Los Angeles, California

Palak Hiten Maniar  
*Advanced Education in General Dentistry*  
University at Buffalo School of Dental  
Medicine  
Buffalo, New York

Madelyn Downey Mascaro  
*Advanced Education in General Dentistry*  
NYU Langone Dental Medicine - Bradenton  
Bradenton, Florida

Hayat Masood  
*Private Practice*  
Dearborn, Michigan

Sneha Mary Mathen  
*Private Practice*  
Fort Wayne, Indiana

Braeden Anil Mathur

Ryan McQuillen \*\*\*  
*Prosthodontics Residency*  
University of Rochester - Eastman Institute  
for Oral Health  
Rochester, New York

William David Meyer \*\*  
*Periodontics Residency*  
Ohio State University  
Columbus, Ohio

Alexis Victoria Millan  
*Advanced Education in General Dentistry*  
East Carolina University School of Dental  
Medicine  
Greenville, North Carolina

Waseem Mir •  
*Orthodontics Residency*  
University of Pittsburgh  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Ayah Mobied  
*Advanced Education in General Dentistry*  
University of Rochester - Eastman Institute  
for Oral Health  
Rochester, New York

Mohamed Ahmed Mohamed  
*General Practice Residency*  
Rochester General Hospital  
Rochester, New York

Joseph Anthony Mostowy  
*Advanced Education in General Dentistry*  
University at Buffalo School of Dental  
Medicine  
Buffalo, New York

Caitlyn Murray  
*Private Practice*  
Denver, Colorado

Aimuumwosa Obarisiagbon  
*Private Practice*  
Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Juliana Barbara Panteloukas •  
*Advanced Education in General Dentistry*  
Veterans Administration Medical Center -  
Buffalo  
Buffalo, New York

Ujwal Vinubhai Patel \*\*\*  
*Private Practice*  
Waterbury, Connecticut

Monica Polakhare  
*Private Practice*  
Casselberry, Florida

Michael Pringle  
*General Practice Residency*  
Erie County Medical Center  
Buffalo, New York

Claire Morgan Prunier  
*General Practice Residency*  
Denver Health Medical Center  
Denver, Colorado

Tala Noaman Abduljabbar Qutachi •  
*Private Practice*  
Sterling, Virginia

Corey James Reazor  
*General Practice Residency*  
Erie County Medical Center  
Buffalo, New York

Elizabeth Jean Sampson  
*General Practice Residency*  
Cambridge Health Alliance  
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Kayla Schwartz •  
*Endodontics Residency*  
Tufts University  
Boston, Massachusetts

Nicholas Servadio  
*Orthodontics Residency*  
University at Buffalo School of Dental  
Medicine  
Buffalo, New York

Saloni Dharmesh Shah  
*General Practice Residency*  
University Hospital - SUNY Upstate Medical  
University  
Syracuse, New York

Ashima Sharma  
*Advanced Education in General Dentistry*  
University of Rochester - Eastman Institute  
for Oral Health  
Rochester, New York

Brittany Rose Sheehan  
*General Practice Residency*  
Erie County Medical Center  
Buffalo, New York

Lauren Holley Sheppard  
*Advanced Education in General Dentistry*  
East Carolina University School of Dental  
Medicine - Clinic  
Thomasville, North Carolina

Nathan Shimer  
*General Practice Residency*  
University of Texas School of Dentistry -  
Houston  
Houston, Texas

Oneida Shushe  
*Advanced Education in General Dentistry*  
Veterans Affairs Medical Center - Albany  
Albany, New York

# Doctor of Dental Surgery Degrees

Aimen Asad Siddiqui  
*General Practice Residency*  
*Roswell Park Cancer Institute/SUNY Buffalo*  
*Buffalo, New York*

Nimrita Singh  
*General Practice Residency*  
*University Hospital - SUNY Upstate Medical*  
*University*  
*Syracuse, New York*

Shannon Solaty  
*Private Practice*  
*Nashville, Tennessee*

Anna Spence  
*General Practice Residency*  
*Erie County Medical Center*  
*Buffalo, New York*

Alexandria Nicole Sullivan  
*Pediatric Dental Residency*  
*Stony Brook University*  
*Stony Brook, New York*

Andrew Phillip Surya  
*Private Practice,*  
*Burlington, Ontario, Canada*

Parisa Tadi •  
*Advanced Education in General Dentistry*  
*University at Buffalo School of Dental*  
*Medicine*  
*Buffalo, New York*

Peyman Tadi  
*General Practice Residency*  
*Erie County Medical Center*  
*Buffalo, New York*

Ramses Tamayo Guerra  
*General Practice Residency*  
*Woodhull Medical Center*  
*Brooklyn, New York*

Faraz Tariq  
*General Practice Residency*  
*University of Tennessee*  
*Knoxville, Tennessee*

Marta Telepko  
*Pediatric Dental Residency*  
*One Brooklyn Health System - Brookdale/*  
*Interfaith*  
*Brooklyn, New York*

Layne G Thurston  
*General Practice Residency*  
*University Hospital - SUNY Upstate*  
*Medical University*  
*Syracuse, New York*

Seth Richard Tirsun  
*General Practice Residency*  
*Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai*  
*New York, New York*

Levi Michael Upham  
*General Practice Residency*  
*Veterans Administration Medical Center -*  
*Wilkes-Barre*  
*Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania*

David Van Huffel  
*Private Practice*  
*Columbus, Ohio*

Caitlin Ann Viele Haggerty  
*Advanced Education in General Dentistry*  
*University at Buffalo School of Dental*  
*Medicine*  
*Buffalo, New York*

Tanner Isaac Wakefield  
*Advanced Education in General Dentistry*  
*U.S. Navy Medicine Readiness and*  
*Training Command*  
*San Diego, California*

Nicole Heary Walawander  
*General Practice Residency*  
*Erie County Medical Center*  
*Buffalo, New York*

Zachary Ryan Weinberger •  
*General Practice Residency*  
*Rochester General Hospital*  
*Rochester, New York*

Michael Daniel Welsh  
*General Practice Residency*  
*Ohio State University*  
*Columbus, Ohio*

Hastings Edward Williams  
*Advanced Education in General Dentistry*  
*University of Tennessee*  
*Nashville, Tennessee*

Ethan C Wood •  
*Pediatric Dental Residency*  
*University at Buffalo School of Dental*  
*Medicine*  
*Buffalo, New York*

Sung Hwan Yoon ••  
*Orthodontics Residency*  
*University of Texas School of Dentistry-*  
*Houston*  
*Houston, Texas*

Brianna Mary Yusiewicz  
*Advanced Education in General Dentistry*  
*Temple University Maurice H. Kornberg*  
*School of Dentistry*  
*Philadelphia, Pennsylvania*

Arthur Vartan Zakaryan  
*General Practice Residency*  
*University of Colorado Anschutz Medical*  
*Campus*  
*Aurora, Colorado*

Sam Zhan  
*Advanced Education in General Dentistry*  
*U.S. Army*  
*Fort Sill, Oklahoma*

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

### **Thesis Honors**

Satyavrat Arya

*The effects of bone grafting on immediate implant primary stability in a simulated model*  
Primary Mentor: Sebastiano Andreana, DDS

Emma Chubb

*Effects of orthodontic ligatures on frictional properties*  
Primary Mentor: Ashish Gurav, DMD, PhD

Natalia Jakacki

*The effect of expiration date on flexural strength of 3D-printed interim resin material*  
Primary Mentor: Rui Li, DDS, PhD

Moiz Khan

*AI-assisted endodiagnostic: Enhancing pulpal & periapical diagnosis through machine learning*  
Primary Advisor: Praveen Arany, BDS, MDS, MMSc, PhD

Ramesh Khorsand

*Treatment outcomes of customized vs. conventional orthodontic brackets: A systematic review*  
Primary Mentor: Thikriat Al-Jewair, DDS, MBA, MSc, MS, FRCD(C)

Ujwal Vinubhai Patel

*Treatment outcomes of customized vs. conventional orthodontic brackets: A systematic review*  
Primary Mentor: Thikriat Al-Jewair, DDS, MBA, MSc, MS, FRCD(C)

## **Concentrations**

### **Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery**

Tyler Lyons

Peyman Tadi

Zachary Ryan Weinberger

### **Oral Diagnostic Sciences**

Anusha Atique

Matthew Qiancong Deng

Okba Jahjah

Olivia F. Longhouse

Michael Pringle

Ramses Tamayo Guerra

Layne G Thurston

### **Periodontics**

Myagmarjav Dashnyam

Sara Emara

Gerliz Ann Cabling Garcia

William David Meyer

Joseph Anthony Mostowj

Oneida Shushe

Nimrita Singh

Peyman Tadi

### **Prosthodontics**

Robert Campbell

Stephanie Hsu

Natalia Jakacki

Christopher Andrew Lepore

Ryan McQuillen

Anna Spence

Andrew Phillip Surya

## Doctor of Philosophy Degrees

### Recommending Candidates for Degrees

Marcelo W. B. Araujo, DDS, MS, PhD  
Dean

### Oral Biology

Yin Luo, DDS

*"Heparan sulfate-protein interactions in bone homeostasis"*

Major Professor: Ding Xu, PhD

Sarah Lucile Metcalfe, BS

*"Macrophage Polarization Changes Oral Microbial Interactions"*

Major Professor: Jason Kay, PhD

Chih Yean Ong, BS

*"Deciphering heparan sulfate-BMPER interaction in bone remodeling"*

Major Professor: Ding Xu, PhD

## Master's Degrees

### Recommending Candidates for Degrees

Marcelo W. B. Araujo, DDS, MS, PhD  
Dean

### Master of Science

#### Biomaterials

Reem Alrabiah, BDS

*"The Effects of Strontium on the Viability of Oral Carcinoma Cell Lines in the Presence of Simulated Smoking Environment"*

Major Professor: Michelle B. Visser, PhD

#### Oral Sciences

Sawsan Ahmed Fadhil Almawla, BDS

*"Assessing the Initial Primary Stability of Dental Implants via Various Osteotomy Preparation Techniques: An Ex Vivo Comparative Study Utilizing Two Distinct Non-invasive Methods"*

Major Professor: Sebastiano Andreana, DDS, MSc

Ali Sameer Alsharif, BDS

*"Color stability of CAD CAM fabricated complete denture after artificial aging-In Vitro Comparison Study"*

Major Professor: Rui Li, DDS, PhD

Ahmed Abdulhadi Al Mozayen, BDS

*"Evaluation of Shear Bond Strength of Zirconia to Resin Cement After Surface Treatments with Different Air Abrasion Zirconia Particles"*

Major Professor: Hyeongil Kim, DDS

Layla Arab, DDS

*"Dexmedetomidine use for Moderate sedation in the periodontal practice"*

Major Professor: Lisa Yerke, DDS, MS

Khadijah Bagazi, BDS

*"Sialidase Activity of the Periodontopathogen Tannerella forsythia Modulates Phagocytic Activity and Inflammatory Response of Macrophages"*

Major Professor: Ashu Sharma, PhD

Manavjot Kaur Gill, BDS

*"Headache attributed to TMD: Impact of different diagnostic criteria on headache characteristics"*

Major Professor: Richard Ohrbach, DDS, PhD

Monique Marie Kapur-Mauleon, BS

*"A Characterization of Craniofacial Phenotypes in a Novel Mouse Model for Kabuki Syndrome via Micro-CT Analysis"*

Major Professor: Hyuk-Jae Edward Kwon, DDS, PhD

Zhengdao Daniel Li, BS

*"Detoxification of implant surfaces with automated oral prophylaxis devices: An ex vivo comparison study"*

Major Professor: Sebastiano Andreana, DDS, MSc

Melissa Estefhania Luna Rubina, DDS

*"Role of Oral Microbiome in 5FU-induced Oral Mucositis"*

Major Professor: Patricia Diaz, DDS, PhD

Omar Alabd Mohamed, BDS

*"Impact of High-Speed Sintering on The Mechanical and Optical Properties of Multi-Layered Zirconia."*

Major Professor: Rui Li, DDS, PhD

Heather Tamburro, BS

*"Stability of Poly Lactic-Co-Glycolic Acid Microspheres in Toothpaste for Sustained-Release Formulations"*

Major Professor: Praveen Arany, DDS, PhD

# Postgraduate Certificates

## Orthodontics

John Anthony Baker, DDS  
*"Comparing Friction and Slot Dimensional Integrity of in-House Fully-Customizable 3D Printed Orthodontic Brackets to Commercially Available Alternatives"*  
Major Professor: Ashish Gurav, DMD, PhD

Ozge Colak, DDS  
*"Artificial intelligence-assisted clinical decision model for managing retained primary second molars with no permanent successors"*  
Major Professor: Thikriat Al-Jewair, DDS, MBA, MSc, MS, FRCD(C)

Aliyyah Hamiduddin, BDS  
*"Treatment Outcomes and Accuray with LightForce™ 3D- Printed Custom Brackets and Clear Aligners"*  
Major Professor: Thikriat Al-Jewair, DDS, MBA, MSc, MS, FRCD(C)

Benjamin Steven Hietanen, DDS  
*"3-dimensional changes of the nasomaxillary complex correlated to the Nasal Obstruction Symptom Evaluation (NOSE) scale in patients treated with mini-implant assisted maxillary expansion"*  
Major Professor: Ashish Gurav, DMD, PhD

Ye Lin, DMD  
*"Changes in Anthropometric Measurements and Facial Proportions for Orthodontic Patients Following Orthognathic Surgery"*  
Major Professor: Stephen Warunek, DDS, MS

Elizabeth Erin Lukens, DDS  
*"Analysis of Frictional Properties of Customizable 3D-Printed Ceramic Orthodontic Brackets and Tubes (LightForce™): An In-Vitro Study"*  
Major Professor: Ashish Gurav, DMD, PhD

## CODA Approved Certificates

**Recommending Candidates for Degrees**  
Marcelo W. B. Araujo, DDS, MS, PhD  
Dean

## Advanced Education in General Dentistry

**June 30, 2024**  
Massilia Abibsi, DMD  
Anthony John Felli, DDS  
Bushra Khan, DMD  
Fritz Augustus Mora, DDS  
Nidhi Parmar, DDS  
Brittany Pollock, DDS  
Xiaoxuan Wang, DMD

## Endodontics

**June 30, 2024**  
Hacer Aksel, DDS, PhD  
Shreya Gakhar, BDS  
EunJung Ji, DMD

## Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology

**February 1, 2024**  
Reem Alrabiah, BDS  
Khadijah Bagazi, BDS

**July 31, 2024**  
Melissa Estefhania Luna Rubina, DDS

## Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery

**June 30, 2024**  
Keith Paskett, DMD, MD

## Orthodontics

**June 30, 2024**  
John Anthony Baker, DDS  
Ozge Colak, DDS  
Aliyyah Hamiduddin, BDS  
Benjamin Steven Hietanen, DDS  
Ye Lin, DMD  
Elizabeth Erin Lukens, DDS

## Pediatric Dentistry

**February 1, 2024**  
Rachel Grace Helen Ziliotto, DDS

**June 30, 2024**  
Ahmad Alnuaimy, DDS  
Dean Ngoc Doan, DMD  
Katherine Dority, DDS  
Julia Kollesar, DDS  
Elizabeth A. Patrick, DDS  
Lauren Pernick, DDS  
Nicholas Alexander Sirotenko, DDS  
Onalee Sortino, DDS

## Periodontics

**February 1, 2024**  
Isolde Gina Rojas-Rudolph, DDS, PhD

**June 30, 2024**  
Sawsan Ahmed Fadhl Almawla, BDS  
Seyedeh Maryam Razmi, DDS

## Prosthodontics

**February 1, 2024**  
Lolowh Abdulaziz H Almogbel, BDS

**June 30, 2024**  
Ali Sameer Alsharif, BDS  
Ahmed Abdulhadi Al Mozayen, BDS  
Omar Alabd Mohamed, BDS

## Temporomandibular Disorders and Orofacial Pain

**July 31, 2024**  
Hema Kumar Vuppalapaty, BDS, MS



## Awards and Presentations Faculty and Staff

### Dean's Award

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

*Faculty: Seungyee Kim-Pusateri, DDS, MS*

*Staff: Casey Reidy*

### The Richard A. Powell Award

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

*Joseph T. DeLuca, DDS*

### The Charles S. Lipani Award

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

*Patrick Anders, DDS, MPH*

## Student Awards and Recipients

### Academy of General Dentistry Award

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

*Connor James Dolce*

*Christopher Andrew Lepore*

### Academy of Operative Dentistry Award

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

*Ethan C. Wood*

### Academy of Osseointegration Award

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

*Ryan McQuillen*

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

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

*John Lepore*

### American Academy of Esthetic Dentistry Award

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

*Elizabeth Jean Sampson*

### American Academy of Implant Dentistry Award

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

*Satyavrat Arya*

### American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology Award

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

*Ramses Tamayo Guerra*

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

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

*Okba Jahjah*

### **American Academy of Oral Medicine Award**

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

*Matthew Qiancong Deng*

### **American Academy of Orofacial Pain**

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

*Olivia F. Longhouse*

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

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

*Simone Rose DeBellis*

### **American Academy of Periodontology Award**

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

*Sabrina Rose Blaskovic*

### **American Association of Endodontists Award**

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

*Kayla Schwartz*

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

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

*Peyman Tadi*

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

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

*Brianna Mary Yusiewicz*

### **American Association of Orthodontists**

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

*Sabrina Rose Blaskovic  
Vincenzo Louis Gramuglia*

### **American Association of Public Health Dentistry Award**

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

*Olivia F. Longhouse*

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

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

*Sabrina Rose Blaskovic*

### **American College of Prosthodontists Award**

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

*Robert Campbell*

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

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

*Arthur Vartan Zakaryan*

# Student Awards and Recipients

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

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

*John Lepore*

## **The Barrett Prize Award**

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

*Sabrina Rose Blaskovic  
Matthew Qiancong Deng  
Vanessa Finazzo  
Pauline Kalta  
Christopher Andrew Lepore  
Ryan McQuillen*

## **Brasseler USA Esthetic Dentistry Award**

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

*Juliana Barbara Panteloukas*

## **Eleanor Bushee Award**

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

*Pauline Kalta*

## **Dean's Award**

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

*Marta Telepko*

## **Dental Alumni Award**

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

*Tanner Isaac Wakefield*

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

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

*David Horbinski*

## **Educator of the Year**

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

*Latifa Bairam, BDS, MS*

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

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

*Emma Elizabeth Chubb*

## **Dr. Marshall Fagin Prosthodontic Award**

provides a scholarship to a past dental student who has been accepted into the University at Buffalo's Prosthodontics residency program. The recipient for this award exhibits excellence in clinical prosthodontics, high moral character and a commitment to ongoing learning.

*Fritz Mora*

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

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

*Ryan McQuillen*

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

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

*Robert Yetto, DDS*

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

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

*Seth Richard Tirsun*

### **Dr. Davis Garlapo Memorial Prosthodontics Award**

is presented to a high-performing senior student, studying the discipline of prosthodontics, given in memory of longtime School of Dental Medicine faculty member Dr. Davis Garlapo.

*Natalia Jakacki  
Ryan McQuillen*

### **Dr. Alan J. Gross Excellence in Teaching Award by Class of 2024**

*is presented in honor and memory of Dr. Alan J. Gross. Students of the current D4, D3 and D2 classes nominate worthy faculty members. The award recognizes teaching with excellence with a genuine concern for students. The graduating D4 Class of 2024 has chosen to nominate...*

*Rui Li, DDS, MS, PhD*

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

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

*John Lepore*

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

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

*Emma Elizabeth Chubb  
Balraj Grewal  
Tyler Lyons  
Alexandria Nicole Sullivan  
Ujwal Vinubhai Patel  
Seth Richard Tirsun*

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

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

*Gerliz Ann Cabling Garcia*

# Student Awards and Recipients

## **Edwin C. Jauch Award**

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

*Satyavrat Arya*

## **Donald Kozlowski Memorial Award**

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

*Matthew Qiancong Deng*

## **Florence Kronson Award**

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

*Nicki Hogenkamp*

## **Robert B. Levine Award**

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

*Ujwal Vinubhai Patel*

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

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

*Zachary Ryan Weinberger*

## **Dr. Russell Nisengard Award**

is presented to a graduating student who aspires to pursue a career in an academic setting. The award is given in memory of UB SDM alum and faculty member, SUNY Distinguished Teaching Professor Russell Nisengard, whose own career exemplified success in academic dentistry, as an educator, researcher, and administrator.

*Satyavrat Arya*

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

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

*David Van Huffel*

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

is presented by the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery to the graduating student who has demonstrated academic excellence and clinical proficiency in this discipline.

*Aimuumwosa Obarisiagbon*

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

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

*William David Meyer*

### **Omicron Kappa Upsilon Membership**

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

#### **Student Inductees**

*Satyavrat Arya*  
*Sabrina Rose Blaskovic*  
*Matthew Qiancong Deng*  
*Leena Garg*  
*Pauline Kalta*  
*Waseem Mir*  
*Ryan McQuillen*  
*Christopher Lepore*  
*Vanessa Finazzo*  
*William David Meyer*  
*Ujwal Vinubhai Patel*  
*Sung Hwan Yoon*  
*Kayla Schwartz*  
*Zachary Ryan Weinberger*

### **Omicron Kappa Upsilon Research Award**

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

*Emma Elizabeth Chubb*

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

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

*Ujwal Vinubhai Patel*

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

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

*Erin Sue Cannon*  
*Ethan C. Wood*

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

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

*Shivam Jauhar*

### **Quintessence Awards**

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

*Research Achievement: William David Meyer*  
*Clinical Achievement in Restorative Dentistry: Juliana Barbara Panteloukas*  
*Clinical Achievement in Periodontics: Oneida Shushe*

### **Lester Schatz Memorial Award**

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

*Sabrina Rose Blaskovic*

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

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

*Anusha Atique*



# Student Awards and Recipients

## George B. Snow Awards

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

*Fixed prosthodontics:*

*1st place: Bailey Cooper Haines*

*2nd place: Connor James Dolce*

*Removable Prosthodontics:*

*1st place: Leena Garg*

*2nd place: Cailen Marie Blaire*

## The Special Care Dentistry Association Student Award

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

*Nicole Heary Walawander*

## St. Apollonia Guild Dental Student Service Award

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

*Ramses Tamayo Guerra*

## Student Affairs Recognition Award

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

*Satyavrat Arya*

*Emma Elizabeth Chubb*

*Bailey Cooper Haines*

*Shivam Jauhar*

*Christopher Andrew Lepore*

*John Lepore*

*Olivia F. Longhouse*

*Juliana Barbara Panteloukas*

*Nicholas Servadio*

*Marta Telepko*

*Seth Richard Tirsun*

*Brianna Mary Yusiewicz*

## U.S. Public Health Service Dental Award of Excellence

is presented to a senior student of dental school who is committed to public health dentistry and the U.S. Public Health Service core values of leadership, service, integrity, and excellence.

*Christopher Andrew Lepore*

## Whip Mix Hanau Prosthodontics Award

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

*Caitlin Ann Viele Haggerty*

## Retirements

**Matthew C. Deck**  
*Clinical Affairs*

**Deborah Falter**  
*Implant Center*

**Carmella R. Hanley**  
*Clinical Affairs*

**Pamela C. Jones**  
*Assistant Dean*

**Kenneth McHenry**  
*Associate Professor*  
*Restorative Dentistry*

**Eileen McIlhagga**  
*Clinical Affairs*

**Steven M. Stern**  
*Clinical Assistant Professor*  
*Periodontics and Endodontics*

**Barbara L. Sutton**  
*Periodontics and Endodontics*

## In Memoriam

**Robert Buhite**  
*Clinical Associate Professor*  
*Restorative Dentistry*

**Kiyonbu Homma**  
*Research Scientist*  
*Oral Biology*

# Academic Regalia

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

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

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

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

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

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

## **The Gold Cord**

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

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

This cord is being worn by graduating UB students who are active duty servicemembers, reservists, members of the National Guard, newly commissioned officers or veterans of the United States armed forces.

## **Academic Stole**

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

## Academic Mace

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

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

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

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

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



## Dentist's Pledge

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

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

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

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

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

## UB Alma Mater

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



### **Verse 1:**

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

### **Refrain:**

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

### **Verse 2:**

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

### **Verse 3:**

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

# School of Dental Medicine

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Pediatric and Community Dentistry

Robert Cohen, DDS, PhD  
Periodontics and Endodontics

Latifa Bairam, BDS, MS (Interim Chair)  
Restorative Dentistry



# Alumni Letter

**Dear Class of 2024,**

**C**

**ONGRATULATIONS!**

Dear Graduating Class of 2024,

On behalf of the University at Buffalo School of Dental Medicine Alumni Association, it is my great pleasure to extend heartfelt congratulations to the Class of 2024 on this momentous occasion of your graduation. As you prepare to step out into the world as accomplished dental professionals, we want you to know that you carry with you the pride and legacy of our esteemed institution.

Your dedication, hard work, and perseverance have led you to this significant milestone, and we applaud you for your commitment to excellence in the field of dentistry. Throughout your time at UB Dental, you have demonstrated not only academic and clinical skills also the qualities of compassion, integrity, and leadership that are essential to success in our profession.

As you embark on the next chapter of your journey, we want to warmly welcome you into the vibrant community of UB Dental alumni. This network of professionals spans the globe and represents a wealth of knowledge, experience, and camaraderie that you can draw upon as you navigate your career.

Remember that your relationship with the University at Buffalo School of Dental Medicine does not end with graduation; rather, it marks the beginning of a lifelong connection. We encourage you to stay engaged with your alma mater by participating in alumni events, mentoring current students, and contributing to the continued growth and success of our beloved institution.

As you venture forth, know that you carry the hopes and aspirations of all those who have come before you and the trust of those who will come after. You are now ambassadors of UB Dental, and we have every confidence that you will represent us with distinction in all your endeavors.

Once again, congratulations, Class of 2024! May your future be filled with boundless opportunities, fulfillment, and joy.

Joe DeLuca, DDS, Class of 2007

President, University at Buffalo School of Dental Medicine Alumni Association

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\*UB alumnus/alumna/alum



**ON THE COVER:**

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

