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## DRA Reminders and Resources

Looking for an overview of Dental Research Administration and the resources we can provide? Watch [this](#) brief overview video!

Thinking of starting a research project? Not sure if it is even ‘research’?

Remember- if you plan to publish or present, some kind of approval is almost always needed, whether your project involves humans/human data or not! [Ann-Marie.Billig@tufts.edu](mailto:Ann-Marie.Billig@tufts.edu) can help you determine what approvals or legal agreements may be needed.

The Tufts IRB is always updating their required protocol templates, please remember to always use the most current versions as you start drafting your protocols! Annotated IRB-protocol templates, ‘getting started’ checklists, and research process guidance documents are all found on our website, [here](#)

**JOIN US FOR BATES-ANDREWS STUDENT RESEARCH DAY | WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5TH**

Bates-Andrews Student Research Day, scheduled for Wednesday, March 5, 2025, features poster presentations showcasing research conducted over the past year, commercial exhibitor displays, and a keynote speech. This year's Keynote will be delivered by Robert A. Faiella, DMD, MMSc, MBA, Past President of the American Dental Association, Immediate Past President of the American Board of Periodontology, and President-Elect of the American College of Dentists. The event allows presenters to share their research endeavors with the rest of the Tufts community and is an excellent opportunity to practice before presenting at national research meetings.

The schedule for the day is as follows:

11:00am-3:00pm	Poster presentations and judging	14th and 15th floors
3:30pm-4:30pm	Keynote presentation	Rachel's Amphitheater, DHS 14
4:30pm-5:30pm	Awards Announcement & Reception	15th floor Alumni Lounge

**2025 AADOCR MEETING**

The 2025 American Association of Dental, Oral, and Craniofacial Research (AADOCR) Annual Meeting & Exhibition is being held in New York, NY, from March 12-15. If you haven't already, please notify DRA if you plan to attend the meeting so we can include you on pertinent correspondence and ensure the appropriate approvals are in place if you are presenting research results. Poster and Oral Presentation templates can be found on our website:

<https://sites.tufts.edu/dentalresearch/resources/presenting-publishing/>

**TUSDM TRAVEL REMINDERS**

- Notify your LRA of the planned trip. If you plan to charge travel expenses to a grant, they will confirm that travel is allowable per the grant award terms, and sufficient funds are available.
- Submit the Travel Justification Form to [Dental.Finance@elist.tufts.edu](mailto:Dental.Finance@elist.tufts.edu)
  - If your trip does not receive prior approval must be received, you may be held personally responsible for any travel expenses
- Use a University-authorized travel agent when able to
- See the Tufts Travel Policy for non-reimbursable expenses, such as first/business class
- Submit a travel report with all receipts within 30-days of completing the travel

**2025 TUSDM STUDENT RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM**

Are you a student interested in research? Do you want to work with a faculty member to research a key area of dental health? TUSDM offers several opportunities for student researchers. The Student Research Fellowship Program funds students on faculty-mentored research projects. The research will culminate in a poster presentation at the annual Bates-Andrews Student Research Day, where multiple cash and travel awards are given out.

Application to the Student Research Fellowship Program involves the submission of a complete research proposal that will be evaluated by members of the TUSDM Research Committee. Please see the important submission deadlines below. Additional information is available on the Student Research Fellowship Program [website](#) or [Predoc Student Research @ TUSDM Canvas page](#).

See below for more information.

<b>Application Dates</b>	<b>D28</b>	<b>International Students, D26, or D26</b>
<b>Letter of Intent</b>	<b>Friday, January 24</b>	<b>Friday, February 14</b>
<b>Online Application</b>	<b>Monday, February 10</b>	<b>Friday, March 7</b>
<b>Research Proposal</b>	<b>Friday, March 28</b>	<b>Friday, April 25</b>
<b>Notifications Sent</b>	<b>Monday, April 14</b>	<b>Friday, May 23</b>

**TUSDM Researcher Featured in Media**

Congratulations to Dr. Pamela Yelick, whose research on tooth bioengineering was recent featured in two outlets:

- NPR: Growing human teeth in pigs

<https://one.npr.org/i/nx-s1-5290022:nx-s1-5353927-1>

-- MIT Technology Review: Humanlike “teeth” have been grown in mini pigs

<https://www.technologyreview.com/2025/02/06/1111178/humanlike-teeth-grown-in-mini-pigs/>



Dr. Athanasios Zavras’ pilot program bringing oral care to those with special needs, funded by a grant from the CareQuest Institute for Oral Health, was featured in [Tufts Now](#).

**APC Waiver- Journal of Healthcare Leadership**

As the founding Editor of the Journal of Healthcare Leadership, Dr. Taichman has the opportunity to sponsor 4 publications, where if accepted, the publication fee will be waived. The Journal of Healthcare Leadership is an international journal focusing on leadership for healthcare professions, which strives to provide up-to-date trends on theoretical and best practices in healthcare, and insights into leadership progress and effective solutions to improve patient care, to both current and future healthcare leaders. If you have a manuscript that you think would align with the Journal of Healthcare Leadership, please feel free to reach out to Dr. Taichman.

**Recently Awarded Grants**

Principal Investigator	Funding Agency	Project Title
Kathy Dolan	Massachusetts Dental Society	TUSDM Cares for Veterans
Jonathan Garlick	Tufts Springboard	Building Trustworthiness Through Dialogue: Laying the groundwork for more equitable Long COVID care for underserved, at-risk communities of color
Jonathan Garlick	BIDMC/NIH	Use of modified mRNA for the treatment of diabetic foot ulceration
Carlos Mourao	Swiss Dental Solutions	Comparative Biomechanical Evaluation of Straumann (PURE) and SDS (CIM) Dental Implants
Vidya Sankar	MeiraGTx	A Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled Study to Determine the Efficacy and Safety of AAV2-hAQP1 Gene Therapy in Participants with Radiation-Induced Late Xerostomia
Pamela Yelick	Wake Forest/AFIRM	Bioengineered functional CMF bones and teeth

## Research Job Openings

See current research job openings at TUSDM [here](#).

## Currently Recruiting Research Studies

See a list of our currently recruiting research studies on [our website](#).

## Federal Updates

The University and School leadership meet regularly to discuss ongoing impacts of the Presidential Executive orders related to federal funding.

What we know right now regarding federal research activities:

1. Study sections are being reactivated
2. NOAs (Notice of Awards) are being received
3. All drawdowns on accounts are occurring at a cadence that is appropriate for the agency
4. Burn-rate on grants should be consistent with time period before this uncertainty began and in alignment with grant activities (no unusual spending should occur)
5. Continue to check federal agency funding opportunities to ensure programs are open/available to receiving applications
6. NIH has proposed a cap on indirect cost rates at 15% for all Universities. We are assessing what this will mean moving forward. The notice is NOT-OD-25-068: Supplemental Guidance to the 2024 NIH Grants Policy Statement: Indirect Cost Rates.

Any award-specific questions should be directed to OVPR pre-award- PIs should not directly contact sponsors/program directors at this time.

The university will continue to hold Federal Actions Town Halls to provide updates to the community. The Office of the Provost has compiled a list of resources that will continue to be updated as the situation develops.