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2025 Bates-Andrews Research Day

Since the 1930’s this day is held annually to honor George A. Bates, an alumnus of Tufts University School of Dental Medicine, who taught Tufts medical and dental students. He was regarded by his students as an inspiring instructor in Histology. Bates Day at TUSDM helps to promote student research and thereby enhances the opportunities for professional growth of our students, alumni and faculty.

This year’s event featured 58 posters about basic science, clinical, educational, materials, and public health research, presented by TUSDM predoctoral and postdoctoral students. A full list of the 2025 research posters can be found in this year’s [program](#).



**Dental Research Administration Newsletter - Spring 2025****2025 BATES-ANDREWS RESEARCH DAY**

**Congratulations to our winners, and a special thank you to all of our faculty mentors and judges!**

1. Best Postgraduate Poster Presentation: Dr. Ryan Kim (Pediatric Dentistry)

“Parental Acceptance of Dental Radiographs without Lead Shielding”

Additional authors: Dr. Cheen Loo, Dr. Sarah Pagni, Dr. Gerald Swee

2. Best Scientific Research Presentation by a Senior (Andrews Society Award): Liana Monderer

“Stress Levels Among Undergraduate and Postgraduate Dental Students at Tufts”

Additional authors: Drs. Azita Khanbodaghi, Gerald Swee, Meral Alyami, Shruti Jain, Cheen Loo

3. AADOCR/Dentsply Sirona SCADA Award: Michael Song

“Cost of Non-Traumatic Dental Treatment in Emergency Departments: Scoping Review”

Additional authors: Drs. Johanna Hauer, Shruti Jain, Samantha Parad, Maria Hernandez

4. First Place – Hinman Research Symposium Award: Troi Davis

“Empowering Tomorrow’s Dentists via Aging-Disability Simulation for Collaborative, Empathetic Care”

Additional authors: Drs. Sarah Pagni, John Morgan, Karin Arsenault

5. Second Place Award for Predoctoral Table Clinic: George Azar

“Saliva and Plaque Microbiome Analysis in Type 1 Diabetic Kuwaiti Children”

Additional authors: Drs. Rebecca Batorsky, Khalid Altabtbaei, Hend Alqaderi

6. Third Place Award for Predoctoral Table Clinic: Anna Lubitz

“Assessing the Effectiveness of Pre-Dental Educational Programming Among High-School Students”

Additional authors: Drs. Sarah Pagni, Riki Gottlieb



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7. DoubleMint Dentistry Travel Fellowship Award (2) (donated by Drs. Sha-Vashtiy Young D19 and Taphaphene Young D20):

Kent Morris- “COVID-19 Impact on Treatment Urgency in Elementary School-Based Dental Program”

Additional authors: Drs. Martha Forero, Kathryn Dolan, Shruti Jain  
and

Grace Hwang- “Oral Toxicities Associated with Trop-2 ADC: Review of Clinical Trials”

Additional authors: Dr. Prazwala Chirrvur, Hannah Ellingson Glade, Dr. Yuanming Xu

8. DoubleMint Dentistry Faculty Support Fund Award (donated by Drs. Sha-Vashtiy Young D19 and Taphaphene Young D20): Dr. Addy Alt-Holland

“Salivary and Epidermal Metabolomics for Biomarker Discovery in Sjogren’s Disease”

Additional authors: T. Mendez, K. Keithahn, J. Cimmino, A. Zidonis, T. Bairos, E. Tzavaras, M.L. Singh, A.S. Papas, S.E. Pagni, J.D. Baleja

9. AADOCR Student Research Day Award: Anthony Tabet

“Exploring Risk Factors Associated with Early Versus Late Implant Failure”

Additional authors: Drs. Shruti Jain, Matthew Finkelman, Ara Bakian, Samar Shaikh, and Ha Eun Jeong

10. Research Committee Award for Basic Science Research: Jennifer Wolla and Ye Han Kim

“Investigating the Regenerative Potential of OsseoPrint 3D (OP3D) Scaffolds for Craniomaxillofacial Defect Repair”

Additional authors: Drs. Alexander Natanzon, Joachim Kohn, Arthur Greyf, Weibo Zhang, Pamela Yelick

11. Massachusetts Dental Society and ASDA Public Health Award (cash prize donated by the Massachusetts Dental Society): Anna Lubitz

“Cross-Cultural Assessment of Caregiver Attitudes on Pediatric Dental Anxiety Aids”

Additional authors: Drs. Sarah Pagni, Meletia Laskou, Cheen Loo, Adam Lowenstein, Jayapriyaa Shanmugham





**Dental Research Administration Newsletter - Spring 2025**

12. Scientific Merit Award for First-Time Presenters (cash prize donated by Dr. Matthew Finkelman): Salma Shaker

“Predoctoral Dental Students’ Preparedness in Treating Disadvantaged Patient Populations”

Additional authors: Drs. Sarah Pagni, Maria Dolce

13. Bates Student Research Group “Peer-reviewed” Award: Liana Monderer

“Stress Levels Among Undergraduate and Postgraduate Dental Students at Tufts”

Additional authors: Drs. Azita Khanbodaghi, Gerald Swee, Meral Alyami, Shruti Jain, Cheen Loo

15. ADEA Student Group Educational Research Award: Ray Byunghyun Kim

“Leveraging AI in Didactic Teaching: A Survey to Assess Student Engagement”

Additional author: Dr. Francesca Bonino

16. Multicultural Award for the Advancement of Dental Research (cash prize donated by Dr. Kistama Naidu, Do2): Megha Kanabar and Jonathan Im

“Long Term Effects of Sialogogues on Maintaining Saliva”

Additional authors: Drs. Matthew Finkelman, Athena Papas

17. Research Recap Video Challenge Awards (judged and cash prizes donated by TUDAA): Dana Moskowitz

“Cardiovascular Disease and Post-Orthodontic Treatment Gingival Recession: A Retrospective Cohort Study”

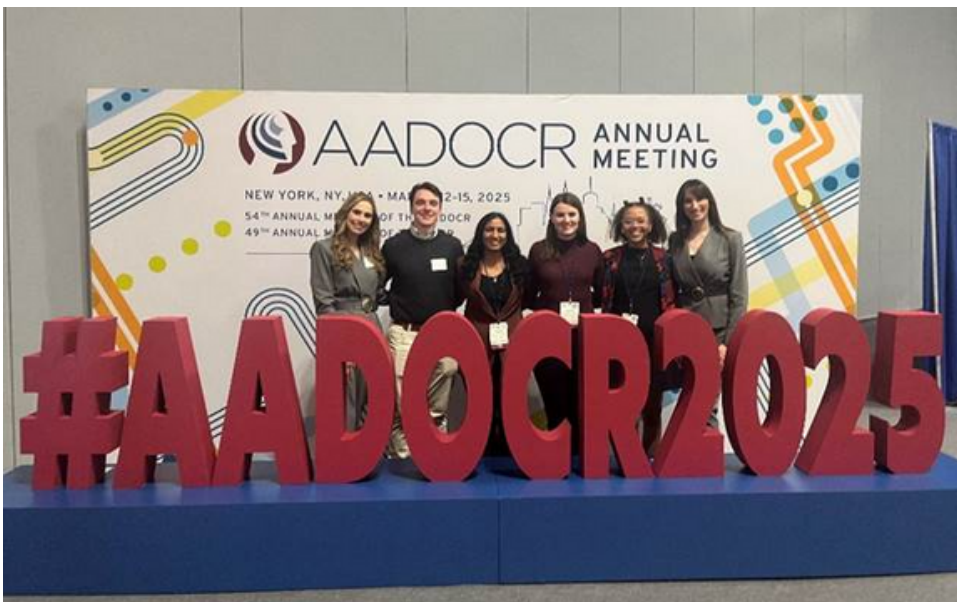
Additional authors: Drs. Matthew Finkelman, Adam Lowenstein



## AADOCR Recap

Thank you to all TUSDM students, faculty and staff that made the 2025 AADOCR meeting last week a success! Highlights included:

- Research posters, symposia, and oral presentations by 32 TUSDM presenters, including students, faculty and staff
- A TUSDM reception on Thursday night welcomed alumni, colleagues across institutions, and sponsor representatives, as well as Rena D'Souza, former director of the NIDCR
- A TUSDM booth in the exhibit hall, manned by our student and staff attendees





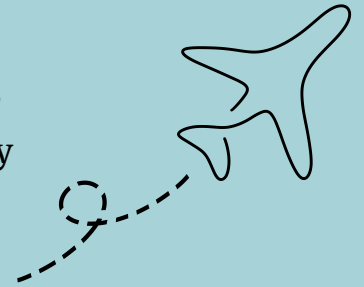
## International Travel Reminders

Individuals traveling internationally on University business are subject to U.S. laws and regulations governing the export of certain items and information. When traveling internationally, Tufts strongly recommends the following:

**1. Register your travel with the Tufts Travel Registry. Registration takes only a moment.**

**Benefits and resources include:**

- Emergency travel medical coverage free of charge during your time abroad on Tufts-related business
- Pre-departure destination information
- Travel alerts and warnings from airport disruptions to security threats
- Support from Tufts and our travel assistance provider in an emergency
- Secure electronic storage of passport and visa copies



**2. Do not access or take export-controlled material while on international travel. Examples include:**

- Data or information received under a Non-Disclosure Agreement, including unpublished federal grant information
- Data or information that results from a project with contractual constraints on the dissemination of the research results
- Items that have limited distribution, proprietary, confidential, or sensitive controls
- Classified, Controlled Unclassified, or Export Controlled data
- Computer software or other equipment received with export restrictions



**3. Use a Tufts provided loaner laptop to reduce cybersecurity risks associated with traveling abroad. Be aware that:**

- Electronic devices (laptops, cell phones, drives, memory), and the software and data are subject to U.S. export controls when you leave the U.S.
- Devices and data may be inspected or retained by U.S. Customs upon departure or return to the U.S.
- Devices and data are also subject to destination laws and regulations.

## Gavel Lab – New Spectrophotometer

The Spectrophotometer CM-36dGV is a high-precision, benchtop color measurement instrument ideal for bench studies in dental material testing. It supports both reflectance (SCI/SCE) and transmittance measurements, essential for evaluating the translucency and color properties. The 60° gloss sensor enables simultaneous color and gloss measurement, enhancing efficiency in aesthetic evaluations. With Numerical UV Control (NUVC), it accurately adjusts UV light for materials containing optical brighteners, such as dental resins. It is equipped with integrated camera sample positioning and a status panel, in addition to Wavelength Analysis & Adjustment (WAA) function ensures long-term measurement accuracy.



Contact [Mona.Patel@tufts.edu](mailto:Mona.Patel@tufts.edu) with any questions about the new Spectrophotometer.

## 2024 Tufts OVPR Research & Innovation Annual Report

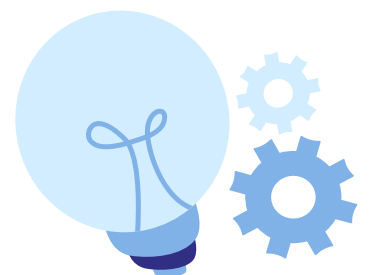
Last month, OVPR announced the launch of the 2024 Tufts OVPR Research & Innovation Annual Report. This report highlights groundbreaking research, key achievements, and the incredible impact of our research community over the past year.

Explore how Tufts researchers and scholars are driving innovation, advancing knowledge, and shaping the future across diverse fields. Access the report at [Tufts OVPR Research & Innovation Annual Report](#)

## Tufts University Ranked in National Academy of Inventors' Top 100 for 2024

Tufts has been named one of the top 100 U.S. universities granted utility patents—also known as patents for invention—for 2024 by the National Academy of Inventors (NAI).

See a recent [Tufts Now article](#) about this accomplishment. Faculty at the Dental School associated with 2024 patents include Drs. Jake Chen, Qisheng Tu, and Pamela Yelick.



## Share your Research Accomplishments!



Share your Research Accomplishments!

Did you know- there are 2 avenues where you can share news about your research accomplishments, such as publications and new funding awards.

- Tufts Kudos- for dissemination in the monthly Tufts Announcements website and Monday Minute email
- Strategic Communications- for consideration for promotion through university- and school-level communications channels (e.g., websites like Tufts Now and the school sites, e-newsletters, social media platforms) and/or for sharing it with external media outlets

## Dr. Lowenstein: ADA 2025 10 Under 10 Award Winner



Congratulations to Dr. Lowenstein who was selected as one of the ADA 2025 10 Under 10 Award winners! Dr. Lowenstein received his DMD from TUSDM in 2020, and is now an Assistant Professor in the Department of Basic and Clinical Translational Sciences.

From the ADA: Developed by the ADA New Dentist Committee in 2017, this award recognizes 10 amazing dentists who graduated from a dental school accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation less than 10 years ago. We're celebrating dentists who demonstrate excellence and inspire others in science, research & education, practice excellence, philanthropy, leadership and advocacy.



## DRA Personnel Updates

Welcome to Jennifer Connolly and Benjamin Attwood, who have recently joined the DRA team!



### Jennifer Connolly

#### *Project Administrator*

Jen will be responsible for overseeing a team of study coordinators and the clinical research studies conducted in the 14<sup>th</sup> floor research clinic.

[Jennifer.Connolly@tufts.edu](mailto:Jennifer.Connolly@tufts.edu)



### Benjamin Attwood

#### *Sr Research Coordinator*

Ben will work with and under the direction of principal investigators to develop, implement and coordinate study protocols and manage the daily clinical trial activities.

[Benjamin.Attwood@tufts.edu](mailto:Benjamin.Attwood@tufts.edu)

### Ann-Marie Jacobson (née Billig) 🎉

Congratulations to Ann-Marie for receiving her CCRP certificate! Issued through the Society of Clinical Research Associates (SOCRA) the Certified Clinical Research Professional (CCRP) certificate demonstrates a high level of knowledge, experience, and understanding in clinical research, covering areas like pharmaceuticals, biologics, medical devices, and behavioral research.

Congratulations to Alexander Zidonis and Jason Zhao for being accepted into undergraduate dental programs! 🎉

## Recent Grant Awards

Principal Investigator	Funding Agency	Award Amount	Project Title
Athanasios Zavras	CareQuest	\$175,000	Transitioning Into a New System That Can (TRANSTC): Improving the Oral Health Related Quality of Life for People With Disabilities
Zoe Zhu	Colgate	\$30,000	Development of a Machine Learning Tool for Home-based Periodontitis Assessment

## Highlighted Funding Opportunities

**If you are planning to submit a grant application, please contact your LRA for assistance with compiling the application and securing institutional approvals.**



### **Oral Reconstruction Foundation Research Grants**

**About:** Just as we face a continuous stream of changes and new challenges in our daily lives, so too does science. To keep abreast of the latest expertise and state-of-the-art technologies as well as to drive progress and increase the body of scientific knowledge in implant dentistry, the OR Foundation provides funding for preclinical and clinical research projects and studies. The insights gleaned from these studies are implemented in new treatment concepts and in the development of processes and products for the benefit of patients.

**Eligibility:** The OR Foundation awards grants to young scientists and/or clinicians working within an established group, experienced scientists and/or clinicians working within an established group or individually, Interdisciplinary and international projects are actively encouraged.

**Deadline:** There are two submission deadlines- May 31 and November 30.

**More Information:** See <https://orfoundation.org/granting/>

**Dental Research Administration Newsletter - Spring 2025****Osteology Foundation- Applied Research Grant**

**About:** The Osteology Foundation aims to support scientific research projects in the field of oral tissue regeneration. To actively promote translational and clinical research, the Osteology Foundation awards grants to selected researchers yearly. Up to 200,000 Swiss francs can be allocated for each selected project.

**Eligibility:** This programme provides funding for both early-career and established researchers, and teams who present with a track record in generating and translating basic research findings towards clinical application. Interdisciplinary (collaborative) research involving basic scientists and clinicians, as well as research groups from different universities/entities, is strongly encouraged.

**Deadline:** Applications are accepted from March 1 until June 1.

**More Information:** <https://osteology.org/funding-opportunities/applied-research-grants/>

**Dentsply Sirona Investigator Initiated Programme**

**About:** The Investigator Initiated Programme enables dental clinicians to undertake projects to investigate a variety of products and indications. Eligible projects include prospective clinical trials, case reports, case series, in-vitro assays or mechanical studies. Available research support from Dentsply Sirona is products and/or financial support up to a maximum of 49% of the total study cost.

**Deadline:** Rolling- response within approximately 8 weeks.

**More Information:** <https://www.dentsplysirona.com/en-hk/academy/about-academy/research-support.html>

**Eklund Foundation- Odontology Project Grants**

**About:** The Eklund Foundation invites applications for its odontology project grants. These support experimental or clinical studies in all fields of dentistry. Projects that relate to periodontology, implantology, and cariology will be prioritised. The budget is €220,000.

**Deadline:** Applications are accepted May 1-31.

**More Information:** <https://eklundfoundation.org/application/apply/>

