

International Association for Dental Research (IADR) General Session

Seventy-three Tufts faculty, staff, and students traveled to San Francisco, CA to attend and present at the IADR General Session March 22-25, 2017. Of those who attended 38 students, 7 staff members, and 9 faculty members presented. Dental Research Administration (DRA) operated an informational booth at the exhibit hall manned by Tufts students. DRA, along with the Offices of Development and Alumni Relations, hosted a reception for the alumni in the San Francisco area and corporate sponsors. Following the reception DRA organized a dinner for Tufts student, faculty, and staff who attended the IADR meeting.

Tufts was well represented at the meeting and was honored with the announcement that our very own Dr. Pamela Yelick, Professor in Orthodontics and Director of the Division of Craniofacial and Molecular Genetics, received the 2017 Distinguished Scientist Isaac Schour Memorial Award from IADR. Some of our students received recognition as well. Out of 95 applicants, two TUSDM pre-doctoral students, Holly Fadie and Kelly Barbera, were nominated to compete for the AADR NSRG Dentsply Sirona Restorative Competition. Among 199 other applicants, TUSDM's own Xifang Zhu was a finalist for the AADR Hatton Award competition. Congratulations to all!



TUSDM students at IADR



Pre-doctoral students working at the Tufts exhibitor booth



Dr. Pamela Yelick receiving the Distinguished Scientist Award



American Dental Education Association Annual Session



Faculty and Students attending ADEA

Thirty six Tufts faculty, students, and staff traveled to Long Beach, CA to attend the ADEA Annual Session March 18-21, 2017. There were 9 poster presentations and 15 education sessions presented by 8 pre-doctoral students, 11 faculty members, and 1 staff member. Another successful year at ADEA!

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Bates-Andrews Research Day

Sixty five pre-doctoral and post-doctoral students presented their research to the TUSDM community at Bates-Andrews Research Day on March 8th. The event was well attended by TUSDM faculty, staff, and students. In addition, there were 22 corporate sponsors also in attendance, displaying their products and handing out free samples. The student award winners listed below will be recognized at the Bates-Andrews Research dinner on May 17. Congratulations to all!

Best Postgraduate Poster Presentation - Dr. Pooyan Refahi (Periodontics)

“Comparison of Autogenous Graft and Soft Tissue Alternatives: Case Report” Mentor: Dr. Irina Dragan

Best Scientific Research Presentation by a Senior - Kanupriya Tewari

“Effect of Material and Storage Temperature on Sealant Microleakage” Mentors: Drs. John Morgan and Gerard Kugel

ADA/Dentsply Student Clinician Award for Best Overall Predoctoral Table Clinic - Yusuf Sheikh

“Retrospective Analysis of Tooth Loss Following Periodontal Regeneration: 196 Patients” Mentor: Dr. Yumi Ogata

Second Place Award for Pre-doctoral Table Clinic - Lauren Gerkowicz

“Identifying Stress-Related Variables: Building Effective Programs to Reduce Student Burnout” Mentor: Dr. Ellen Patterson

Third Place Award for Pre-doctoral Table Clinic - Harsh Patwari

“Prevalence of Medical Emergencies at TUSDM” Mentor: Dr. Archana Viswanath

Research Committee Award for Basic Science Research - Arietta Rigopoulos

“Tumor Cell Energy Metabolism in Basal Cell Carcinoma Development” Mentor: Dr. Addy Alt-Holland

Massachusetts Dental Society and ASDA Public Health Award - Hou-da Hamze

“Knowledge and Awareness of Boston Public School Nurses on the Emergency Management of Dental Trauma” Mentor: Dr. Tarunjeet Pabla

Omicron Kappa Upsilon (OKU) Hilde Tillman Award - Stephanie Philis and Sarah Schuback

“Silk Fiber Films for the Localized Release of Antibiotics” Mentors: Drs. Gerard Kugel and Driss Zoukhri

Dr. Chad Anderson Award for Innovative Methodology and Research Design - Michelle Ta

“Microleakage Evaluation of Elevated Temperatures in Combined Adhesives and Restoratives” Mentors: Drs. John Morgan and Gerard Kugel

Esthetic Dentistry Award - Timothy Reichheld

“Observational Staining Properties of Silver Fluoride on Dental Materials” Mentors: Drs. Gerard Kugel and Ronald Perry

Scientific Merit Award for First-Time Presenters - Syed Hussain

“Color Stability of Three Restorative Materials – An In Vitro Study” Mentors: Drs. Steven Eisen & Gerard Kugel

Oral Health Disparities Award - Tuvy Phan

“Phase II: Testing an Oral Health Educational Booklet on the Appeal, Readability & Usefulness with Students and Patients in the TUSDM Pre-Doctoral Clinic” Mentor: Natalie Hagel

Bates Student Research Group “Peer-reviewed” Award - Holly Fadie

“Opportunities for Speech-Language-Pathologists to Incorporate Oral Health in Practice” Mentor: Dr. John Morgan

ADEA Student Group Educational Research Award - Meghan Kelley

“ADEA Hack-a-Thon’ Suggests Interprofessional Education Most Vital to Academic Success” Mentor: Dr. Irina Dragan

Procter & Gamble AADR Traveling Fellowship Award - Sahar Mostafavi

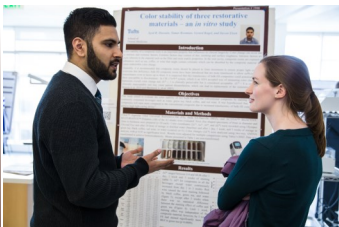
“Early Flexural Strength of Temporary Crown and Bridge Materials” Mentors: Drs. Gerard Kugel and Ronald Perry

AA DR Student Research Day Award - Andrew Lum

“Lateral Wall Thickness among Schneiderian Membrane Perforations: A CBCT Study” Mentor: Dr. Yong Hur

Multicultural Award for the Advancement of Dental Research - Sangita Murali

“Extrinsic Stain Removal: A Power Toothbrush vs. Manual Toothbrush Study” Faculty Mentor: Dr. Ronald Perry



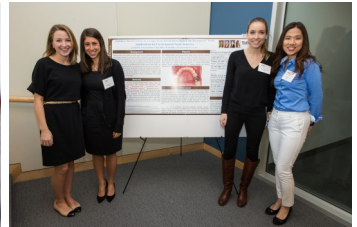
Syed Hussain explains his research to another student



Dr. Jeong and Daniel Regan discuss a poster



Tim Reichheld and Dr. Papathanasiou at Bates Day



Students at a poster during Bates Andrews Day

The Student Fellowship Program allows TUSDM pre-doctoral students to earn a stipend while conducting a research study under the supervision of a faculty mentor. Applications are now in process of being reviewed by the Research Committee. Students whose proposals are accepted should contact Amanda.Gozzi@tufts.edu, who will assist with the submission to the IRB. For studies not involving human subjects, samples or data, there is an internal DRA approval process. No study activities can begin until the appropriate approval has been received. Students working on a materials project should also contact Jeffrey.Daddona@tufts.edu to begin mandatory lab safety training and schedule a time to work in the Dr. J. Murray Gavel Lab in DHS 833.

D20 students will participate in a mini-course run by Dr. Addy Alt-Holland and Eileen Doherty. This course will consist of three noontime meetings, with an online discussion forum to stay connected between meetings. It is designed to instruct first-year students on the basics of conducting a sound research project, and underscore the importance of evidence-based dentistry. D18/D19 research students wanting to participate can contact Eileen.doherty@tufts.edu for additional details. Further details regarding the paperwork necessary to receive the stipend will be sent to the accepted students in the coming weeks. If you would like more information on the Student Fellowship Program please visit our [website](#).

Faculty Research Mentor Spotlight - Dr. Addy Alt-Holland



In this issue we would like to highlight one of our most active research mentors Dr. Addy Alt-Holland, an Assistant Professor in Endodontics who started at TUSDM in 2004. Since Dr. Alt-Holland was hired, she has mentored over 30 students from TUSDM and TUSM, as well as students from other institutions such as Pine Manor College, Boston College, UMASS Amherst, and Wentworth Institute of Technology.

Dr. Alt-Holland started mentoring during her MSc and PhD studies. She has continued to mentor because she believes “An integral part of being a scientist is to perform research while working closely with research mentors who are more experienced than you, and at the same time serving as a mentor to students that are less experienced than you. In a way, while you are being mentored you also mentor other students, which is an enriching and satisfying experience.” Students who have worked with Dr. Alt-Holland focus on skin and oral cancer research, bioengineered tissue models of human premalignant and malignant tissues, identification of novel molecular targets for cancer therapy, and predictive and prognostic biomarkers for cancer development and regression.

In addition to the 30 students Dr. Alt-Holland has mentored, she also runs a mini-course titled “Introduction to Research” for the D20 with Eileen Doherty. Since hired in 2004, Dr. Alt-Holland’s 30 research students have helped her author 40 abstracts and 5 journal articles, which has exposed her to 30 press releases, media publications and newsletters.

Not only is Dr. Alt-Holland mentoring the TUSDM students, but for the past three years she has been serving as a mentor in the “Mentoring Circles” program of the Association for Women in Science (AWIS) Mass Chapter. Within this program she has mentored PhD students and post-docs from different institutions, affiliated hospitals, and research institutions in the greater Boston area. The success of the Student Fellowship Program would not be possible if it wasn’t for our dedicated mentors who go above and beyond. Thank you for your time and dedication Dr. Alt-Holland!

If you are interested in learning about or becoming a research mentor, please contact Eileen.Doherty@tufts.edu.

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Upcoming Events

Research Travel Program Lunch and Learn

Please attend our upcoming lunch to learn on the Student Research Travel Program, 5/26 at 12pm by emailing Katie.Dunn@tufts.edu. Or visit the programs [website](#) to find out more information. The Research Travel Program has been around for over 10 years allowing students to travel to corporate sponsors and conduct a materials based research project all while learning about the corporate side of research and development. Sites are all over the world to places such as: Germany, Australia, Canada, and a few sites within the United States. Pre-doctoral students who have experience in dental materials research can apply, [applications are due 6/5/17](#).

Research Awards Dinner

Bates-Andrews Day was held on 3/8/17 and was a huge success. The Bates-Andrews Research Awards Dinner will be held in May, by invitation only, recognizing the students, faculty, and staff members who participated in the 2017 Bates-Andrews Research Day. Bates Day awards will be given, and new members will be inducted into the Robert R. Andrews Research Honors Society. Dr. Maria Kukuruzinska, the Associate Dean for Research at Boston University School of Dental Medicine will be speaking at the dinner. For more information on Dr. Kukuruzinska please click [here](#).



Ask Ms. Science Compliance

Have a question about research but aren't sure who to ask? Submit your question [here](#) and Ms. Science Compliance will be happy to answer it.

Dear Ms. Science Compliance,

I am a UG student interested in doing research, but I don't have a research mentor. How can I find a mentor that shares my research interests?

Thank you,

Mentorless in Seattle

Dear Mentorless in Seattle,

Happy to hear you are interested in research! We have many dedicated mentors and are sure we can help you find one. Please be on the look out for our upcoming Student Research Mixer being held in November 2017 where you can meet a potential mentor. Additionally, check out our [research database](#) where you can identify potential research mentors by searching the field of research as well as study type (basic, clinical, educational, etc.). You can also look through the [Bates-Day research abstracts](#), and see if any faculty members are doing research on similar topics.

Thank you

Ms. Science Compliance

Cracker Cookies

(Submitted by Pamela Corrado, DRA)

Ingredients:

1 (12oz) pkg semi-sweet morsels
1-2 sleeves of Unsalted saltine crackers
¾ stick of butter or margarine
Toppings of choice: coconut, nuts, raisins, toffee crunch, sprinkles, etc.



Instructions:

Preheat oven to 350°. Place butter/margarine in cookie sheet or large baking pan. Put pan in oven until the butter/margarine is all melted. Remove pan from oven and line the bottom of pan with the crackers until bottom is covered, try not to overlap. Place semi-sweet morsels over crackers. Put pan in oven for approx. 10 min until the morsels are softened and easy to spread. Do not overcook morsels or they will become crumbly and not spread. Spread softened morsels evenly over crackers while hot, sprinkle desired toppings. Refrigerate for at least 2 hours. Once cooled break into pieces and serve.

* To share your recipe with the group please email DentalResearchAdministration@tufts.edu!



Post-Doctoral Students Present Their Research Projects

In the upcoming month, post-doctoral students will have the opportunity to present their research projects. Several departments will be hosting their own **departmental research days**. Master's Students who are not affiliated with a department that has its own day will participate in the 8th annual **MS Research Day**, on Tuesday 5/16/17 from 12-3PM in Rachel's Amphitheater (DHS 1414).

Judges will attend the research presentations, and the winners of each departmental research day and the top two winners from MS Research Day will go on to compete at **Interdepartmental Research Day** on Thursday 6/22/17 from 2-5pm in Rachel's Amphitheater (DHS 1414). These select students will present their research findings via PowerPoint to judges. The judges then select the top three presentations to win cash prizes for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place.

Please come by both events and support the post-doctoral researchers!



For answers to the crossword puzzle in the last edition please email Amanda.Gozzi@tufts.edu.



DRA Hosted Lunch and Learns

DRA strives to increase the opportunities for education in all aspects of research. If you have missed a prior lunch and learn here is a list of the most recent DRA workshops. Click on this [link](#) to be directed to all of our past lecture-captured lunch and learns listed on our website.

- Changes in the Grant Submission Process at TUSDM - Presented on 4/25/17
- Epidemiological Approach Using EHR Data - Presented on 3/2/17
- The Do's and Don'ts of Research Coordinating - Presented on 2/27/17
- Qualitative Research: Focus Groups and Key Informant Interviews - Presented on 2/2/17
- Demystifying the IRB Process - Presented on 1/9/17

DRA Learning Corner

What is the IRB? The Institutional Review Board (IRB) is federally mandated to review, monitor and approve research involving human participants, samples, and/or data. Here at Tufts, we have two IRB offices. The Tufts Health Sciences IRB is on the Boston campus and focuses on biomedical research and any studies involving HIPAA (medical information). The Social, Behavioral and Educational Research (SBER) IRB is on the Medford campus. SBER IRB personnel is experienced in reviewing research involving surveys, interviews, program evaluations, and quality assurance.

TUSDM submits studies to both IRBs for review, depending on the type of research. Each IRB has their own documents required for study submissions. DRA can help determine which IRB is appropriate for your study, complete all necessary submission documents and submit the paperwork for review. Please note: both IRBs will NOT accept any submissions that have not been reviewed and signed off by DRA.

Please reach out to Amanda.Gozzi@tufts.edu with any questions.

Meet the New Members of DRA



Dr. Duong Tran- Assistant Professor in Public Health

Please welcome Dr. Duong Tran! Dr. Tran is the newest member of our research team from The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston where he was a Postdoctoral Research Fellow. He received his Ph.D. in 2013 also from UT Houston. His dissertation was titled "Partial mouth periodontal examination protocol for estimates of prevalence, severity and extent of periodontitis". Dr. Tran received his M.P.H. in Epidemiology from The University of Queensland in Brisbane, Australia. His thesis title was "Implementation of multicultural policies in dental public health services for Vietnamese community at Brisbane South, Queensland". Dr. Tran oversees research using electronic health record databases. He works extensively with and mentors pre-doctoral, post-doctoral, and postgraduate students and is responsible for designing and writing proposals, analyzing data, interacting with external research sponsors, presenting results, and publishing scholarly articles.

Duong.Tran@tufts.edu or 617 636-3614



Courtney Thurell
Research Coordinator

Please welcome Courtney Thurell to DRA! Previous to this Courtney worked as a dispensary assistant at TUSDM. Courtney works under the direction of the Clinical Research Manager to develop, implement and coordinate

study protocols & manage the daily clinical trial activities of TUSDM. Courtney is also responsible for the oversight and supervision of the 14th floor Dental Research Clinic to provide the Tufts faculty, staff and students a safe and sterile research facility.

Courtney.Thurell@tufts.edu or 617 636-3865



Jessica Colon
Research Administrator I

Please welcome Jessica Colon! Jessica is responsible for the full life cycle of research administration process ranging from grant submission to post-award administration, award compliance and close-out. Jessica is a great resource for

TUSDM researchers in terms of navigating both the new electronic Research Administration System (RAS) and tools as well as the institutional and regulatory requirements that govern research at TUSDM.

Jessica.Colon@tufts.edu or 617 636-3476



Click [here](#) to check out the TUSDM clinical trials currently enrolling patients.



New Mission Statement



DRA Retreat, September 2016

DRA aims to inspire interest in research, and equip faculty and student researchers with the tools they need to properly develop and conduct their studies. By offering a wide array of support throughout the lifecycle of a research study, DRA allows TUSDM researchers to focus on the science and enhance the educational experience of the pre-doctoral and post-doctoral students who participate. Recently team members of DRA met to revise their overarching mission statement (see below).

The mission of DRA is to promote the research enterprise at TUSDM, reduce administrative burden and support research productivity and compliance.

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