Bates-Andrews Dinner Recap

Each year TUSDM holds the Bates-Andrews Research Day to honor George A. Bates, an alumnus who taught Tufts medical and dental students. This past Bates-Andrews Day was held on March 8, 2017 where dental students presented their research to judges and peers. On Thursday May 17, 2017 the annual awards dinner for those who participated in the research day, was held. The dinner honored student participants, student award winners, research mentors, and faculty judges. 120 members of the TUSDM community attended. Awards were presented to: Yusuf Sheikh (D18), Lauren Gerkowicz (D18), Harsh Patwari (D19), Dr. Pooyan Refahi (Perio), Kanupriya Tewari (D17), Arietta Rigopoulos (D19), Stephanie Phillips (Ortho), Sarah Schuback (D17), Sahar Mostafavi (D17), Andrew Lum (D18), Michelle Ta (D17), Sangita Murali (D18), Tuvy Phan (D18), Syed Hussain (D19), Houda Hamze (D17), Meghan Kelly (D17), Timothy Reichheld (D18), and Holly Fadie (D18). Click this link to view our last newsletter which listed each student’s project and their award.

A keynote speech was given by Dr. Maria Kukuruzinska the Associate Dean for Research at Boston University School of Dental Medicine. The goal of Dr. Kukuruzinska’s research is to elucidate the regulatory mechanisms underlying the interactions between the metabolic pathway of protein N-glycosylation and intercellular adhesion in tissue development and disease. Also at the dinner the 2016-2017 Student Research Group (SRG) Officers were honored and the 2017-2018 SRG officers were named: President: Sama Abdul-Aziz (D18), Vice-President: Alisha Anand (D18), Treasurer: Grace Kim (D19), Secretary: Arietta Rigopoulos (D19), Public Relations: Jason Berglund (D18) and Shawn Kim (D20), Community Outreach: Nancy Epstein (D19), and PG Representative: Kanupriya Tewari (Ortho).

Upcoming Abstract Deadlines

**ADEA** - If you are submitting an abstract or attending the American Dental Education Association (ADEA – March 17-20, 2018) meetings you must notify Dental Research Administration (DRA), by emailing Katie.Dunn@tufts.edu. If you are submitting an abstract please look at the meeting checklist for submission requirements and details, which is here.

**AADR** - If you are submitting an abstract/attending the American Association of Dental Research (AADR – March 21-24, 2018) meetings you must notify DRA, by emailing Katie.Dunn@tufts.edu. If you are submitting an abstract to the meeting look at the meeting checklist for submission requirements here. Please note, if you are a pre-doc student submitting to the AADR meeting, Katie Dunn must submit your abstract for you in order to secure travel funds. Data are due to stats on 9/20/17, and abstracts are due to Katie by 10/4/2017.
Interdepartmental Research Day Winners

Eight students participated in the annual TUSDM Post-Doctoral Interdepartmental Research Day on June 22, 2017. Judges scored the oral presentations and the winners were chosen:

First place: **Dr. Fahad Hegazi (M.S. Dental Research)**
*Radiographic evaluation of the effectiveness of resin infiltration vs. standard-of-care preventive measures in inhibiting incipient enamel proximal lesion progression in primary molars*

Second place: **Dr. Manar Alghanim (M.S. Dental Research)**
*Re-establishing the shear bond strength at the dentin-resin interface after blood contamination*

Third place: **Dr. Nora Alhazmi (M.S. Dental Research)**
*Salivary parathyroid hormone-related protein (PTHrP) and alkaline phosphatase (ALP) as biomarkers for skeletal maturity*

All of the talks were excellent, so congratulations to everyone who presented. Thank you to all of the judges and attendees, and thank you to all members of the Tufts Dental community who support the research endeavors of our students.

American Academy of Implant Dentistry (AAID)

Four pre-doctoral students were awarded a grant from the American Academy of Implant Dentistry (AAID). The students wrote a research proposal, worked with DRA to submit to the funding agency, and were awarded the grant. Three students were awarded this year: Nari Park (D19), Yusuf Sheikh (D18), and Shawn Kim (D20). Last year, Andrew Lum (D18) was awarded the same grant. The grant funds allow the student to conduct their research, travel to present, and funds to publish. Please join me in congratulating these students on their major accomplishment!

**Click here to check out the TUSDM clinical trials currently enrolling patients.**

Materials Research is Booming at TUSDM!

Dental materials research has more than doubled from this time last year! This is a tribute to the great team in Dental Research Administration working diligently to: match students with mentors, create exciting research questions, collaborate with sponsors, and secure funding. The resources available at TUSDM have allowed for the great variety of research projects. The **Dr. J Murray Gavel Center** is our materials research laboratory, please click on the link to see what equipment is available for use. The **14th Floor Clinical Research Clinic** allows research participants one location to go to each visit with a private consenting space. The results of these efforts have materialized into the following studies:

- 3 Clinical Trials
- 4 Student Travel Program Grants
- 2 Gifts to Support Student Research
- 7 Materials Bench Studies

To learn more about the resources available at TUSDM or to find out how you can get involved with a materials research project, please contact **Katie Dunn** via email or at 617 636-2745.
Looking to Submit a Grant?

If you are a TUSDM faculty member thinking about submitting a grant, please contact Pamela Corrado or your assigned Research Administrator at the beginning of the process. When you identify an opportunity, please send your Request for Proposal Submission form to DRA so that we can begin creating your submission.

All funding proposals must be entered into the new Research Administration grant submission system (RAS) and submitted through DRA, including but not limited to:

- Foundations
- Federal and State and Local Agencies
- Private Corporate Sponsors
- Internal Tufts funding
- Limited submissions
- Funding for graduate students

A minimum of 6 weeks’ notice is recommended in order to prepare the grant package in order for internal review by the Office of the Vice Provost and to properly submit it to the funding agency.

**“5 day rule”:** TUSDM is required to submit all grant proposals via RAS 5 business days before the sponsor deadline. The proposal will be routed to the Vice Provost’s Office of Research Administration (ORA) for final review/approval.

In addition, two days prior to the sponsor deadline the final research strategy document must be uploaded if it was not already included at the time of routing. If a proposal is not 100% complete two days before the submission deadline, the PI will be required to complete an addendum acknowledging they are submitting an application for review and submission less than 48 hours prior to the due date. This addendum will be sent to Dean Thomas and ORA.

**Upcoming 2017 NIH Grant Due Dates**

**New Submissions**

- **R01**
  - new
  - Research Grants
  - October 5

- **K series**
  - new
  - Research Career Development
  - October 12

- **R03, R21, R33, R21/R33, R34, R36, UH2, UH3, UH2/UH3**
  - now
  - Other Research Grants and Cooperative Agreements
  - October 16

**Resubmission / Revision Submissions**

- **R01**
  - renewal, resubmission, revision
  - October 5

- **K series**
  - renewal, resubmission, revision
  - October 12

- **R03, R21, R33, R21/R33, R34, R36, UH2, UH3, UH2/UH3**
  - renewal, resubmission, revision
  - November 10

- **Research Career Development**
  - November 5

- **Other Research Grants and Cooperative Agreements**
  - November 12

Fill out the DRA survey here to let us know how we are doing.
The Division of Biostatistics and Experimental Design

The Division of Biostatistics and Experimental Design is happy to work with you to make your research project the best it can be. Consisting of Dr. Matthew Finkelman, Dr. Britta Magnuson, Dr. Sarah Pagni, and Ms. Tamar Roomian, this division has been instrumental to the success of many studies, including multiple federally funded studies, here at TUSDM. Members of the division collaborate with pre-doctoral students, master’s students, certificate students, and faculty on:

- Protocol development
- Study design
- Sample size determination
- Writing data analysis plans
- Answering questions from the Institutional Review Board and Scientific Review Committee
- Randomization
- Data formatting
- Statistical analysis
- Dissemination of results

In addition, members are active in teaching, including directing the postdoctoral Biostatistics sequence as well as lecturing in the pre-doctoral Epidemiology and Introduction to Research courses, among others.

Please email your statistician or Matthew.Finkelman@tufts.edu anytime if you would like to set up a meeting with a member of the team.

Make sure to check out our newly revised DRA website, https://sites.tufts.edu/dentalresearch/

Research Travel Program

Students have been participating in the Research Travel Program at TUSDM for over ten years. This summer there were two companies that chose to participate in the Research Travel Program, 3M Oral Care located in Seefeld, Germany and Southern Dental Industries (SDI) located in Melbourne, Australia. There was an application process to select the four students to participate in the program (2 at each site) that was due at the beginning of the summer. Students were selected based on their experience with researching dental materials. Sunny Gaudet (D18) and Sangita Murali (D18) were selected to travel to 3M Oral Care in Germany. They completed their research projects and returned to the states at the end of July. Gregory Monfette (D18) and Aaron Lalonde (D18) were selected to travel to SDI in Australia the end of August through the first week of September. Each student conducts research and creates an abstract to be submitted to the AADR 2018 meeting in Ft. Lauderdale. If accepted, their travel to the meeting will be covered through the Research Travel Program.

If you are interested in participating in the Research Travel Program during the summer of 2018, please look at our website for the upcoming application submission dates. If you have any questions please contact Katie Dunn.
DRA Updates

Amanda Gozzi has filled Quigley Raleigh’s position, and started her role as a Research Administrator II on 6/19. Amanda is responsible for the full life cycle of research administration ranging from proposal development to post-award administration, award compliance and close-out. Please contact Jessica Colon or Amanda Gozzi if you are interested in applying for research funding or submitting a grant.

Nicolette Kafasis started her new role on 8/1, as Research Affairs Specialist. Nicolette will be responsible for working with faculty and students to develop supporting documents for their studies and facilitate the submission and approval process with the IRB. In addition, she will coordinate the initiation of approved research studies, ensuring that all study team members are properly trained and compliance is maintained throughout the duration of the study. Please contact Nicolette Kafasis if you plan to do a research project at TUSDM.

Faculty Research Mentor Spotlight - Dr. Steven Eisen

In this issue, we would like to highlight a research mentor who has made a large impact on student research, Dr. Steven Eisen. Dr. Eisen has been a research mentor at TUSDM for about 8 years. During that time he has mentored close to 50 students, many of whom received prestigious awards. Dr. Eisen has approximately 40 abstracts and publications to his credit. He began his research career during his undergraduate training as a volunteer in the Surgical Research Lab at Tufts Medical Center Hospital. During his time as a volunteer he was directly involved in numerous research projects simulating medical conditions and investigating new applications in surgical techniques in animal models. The experience at Tufts Medical Center Hospital was what started Dr. Eisen’s interest in research.

As a Professor of the pre-clinical course, Dr. Eisen is consistently crossed with a variety of potential research questions. These research questions vary from educational research with a focus on the psychology of learning or in dental materials science. Dr. Eisen says he enjoys mentoring students as it provides him another opportunity to interact with them on a different level other than teaching. He still finds it interesting to take a research idea and mold it into a project. “Research is a rewarding investment of your time and energy… Don’t worry, I will help you!” Dr. Eisen believes students get so much out of participating in the Student Fellowship Program by seeing their research evolve and having the opportunity to present their findings at national meetings. Lastly, he feels fortunate to be able to teach, conduct research, and practice dentistry here at TUSDM.

If you are interested in learning about or becoming a research mentor, please contact Eileen.Doherty@tufts.edu.
Banana Oat Greek Yogurt Muffins
(Submitted by Jessica Colon, DRA)

Ingredients

- 1 cup plain Greek yogurt
- 2 medium ripe bananas (1 cup mashed)
- 2 large eggs
- 2 cups oats (old fashioned or quick)
- 1/4 cup brown sugar
- 1 1/2 tsp baking powder
- 1/2 tsp baking soda
- 1/2 cup chocolate chips, mini or regular

Preheat oven to 400F (204C) and prepare a muffin pan by spraying the cavities with cooking spray or lining them with paper liners. Set aside. Add all the ingredients except for the chocolate chips to a blender or food processor and process on high until the oats are broken down and batter is smooth and creamy. Stir in chocolate chips by hand. Pour batter into prepared muffin pan, filling each cavity until it is about 3/4 full. Optional: sprinkle a few chocolate chips over the top of each muffin. Bake for 15-20 minutes, until the tops of your muffins are set and a toothpick inserted into the middle comes out clean. Allow muffins to cool in pan for ~10 minutes before removing. Store in an air-tight container for up to a week.

Trivia

1. What piece of equipment invented by a dentist changed how golf was played?
   A. Iron club  B. Golf cart  C. Golf tee  D. Golf ball

2. Name the U.S. president who had oral surgery done in secret to avoid a national panic?
   A. Rutherford Hayes  B. George Washington  C. Grover Cleveland  D. Abraham Lincoln

Answers

1. C. Golf tee. William Lowrey (1860-1954), a New Jersey dentist, is given credit for the invention of the common wood.

2. C. Grover Cleveland. The operation, which took place aboard a yacht in the East River in NYC, removed a malignant growth from the roof of his mouth.

Congratulations to Dr. Mabi Singh for being nominated as Vice President of the Geriatric Oral Research (GORG) group through the IADR. If you are a member of that group please make sure to vote for Dr. Singh!