

## Current COVID-19 Related Guidelines and Policies

Please find below links to current university and school guidelines and regulations related to COVID-19 for your reference. Please reach out to DRA if you have any questions, and to help facilitate any needed regulatory approvals.

- [Biosafety Guidelines for COVID-19 and Research](#)
- [COVID-19 Policies and Procedures](#), effective June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021, includes updates on:
  - Vaccination Requirements for Students, Faculty & Staff
  - Protocols for Mask Wearing, Gatherings, Physical Distancing & Dining
  - Testing, Quarantine, Isolation & Daily Health Screening
  - Visitors
  - Travel
- [Face-to-Face Human Subjects Research](#), includes policies and procedures regarding:
  - On Campus Research
  - Off-Campus Research, US-Based and International
  - Research-related Travel
  - Face-to-Face Human Subjects Research with a Higher Risk of COVID-19 Infection
  - Required [Participant Screening Questionnaire](#)
  - [Integrative Safety Committee](#) (ISC) Review Process
- TUSDM [New Temporary Policy and Process for Visitors/Vendors \(for non-patient-related visitors\)](#)
- Tufts University [Research Infection Control Manual](#), updated 9.13.21
- [Return to Campus Guide](#) for Fall 2021, includes information on topics, including:
  - Reentry to Campus- training, daily attestation, surveillance testing, etc.
  - Personal Safety- mask/face covers
  - Vaccination Protocols
- [Research-Related Travel](#)
- [Policy on University-connected Travel for Faculty, Staff, and Students: Fall 2021](#)
- [COVID-19 Vaccination Policy for Vendors and Affiliates](#)
- [Routine Surveillance Testing Program](#)

### AADOCR 2022 Annual Meeting

The American Association for Dental, Oral, and Craniofacial Research (AADOCR, formally AADR) annual meeting will be held as a hybrid meeting March 23-26, 2022. The deadline to submit your abstract is **Monday October 18, 2021**. Faculty and Staff, if you plan on submitting your research to this conference please discuss with your Chair prior to submission. Students, discuss your submission with your Research Mentor and plan on attending the conference virtually, if accepted. Be sure to check out [these](#) award opportunities and fellowships. Contact [Sonnya Morales](#), Associate Director in Corporate and Foundation Relations to apply for any fellowships.

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## Tufts Springboard - Fall/Winter 2021

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It is our pleasure to announce the 4<sup>th</sup> cycle of [Tufts Springboard](#), with applications for Research & Scholarship program due on Friday, October 29<sup>th</sup> 2021 and Educational/Curricular program due on Tuesday, January 18, 2022.

**Special consideration will be given to research, scholarship, and educational projects that focus on racial inequities and/or promoting anti-racist interventions in keeping with the University's commitment to be an anti-racist institution.**

Co-sponsored by the Office of the Provost and the Office of the Vice Provost for Research (OVPR), the goal of Tufts Springboard is to stimulate high impact research, scholarship and educational initiatives that have an explicit plan leading to extramural funding or other outcomes that influence research, scholarship, educational outcomes, and/or policy. Moreover, the Tufts Springboard program aims to further the priorities of the University and its schools and to fortify Tufts' status as a [R1, very-high research activity university](#).

The Tufts Springboard program is designed to be responsive to the needs created by the constantly changing world and funding landscape in several distinct ways. Applications for Research & Scholarship program will be reviewed two times each year—in Fall and Spring. Applications for Educational/Curricular program will be reviewed once each year in Winter.

Projects should be built on the applicant's prior work and lead to a long-term research, scholarship, or curricular endeavor. The program is not intended for one-off projects, but rather to make a lasting contribution to Tufts mission via research, scholarship, or education. The emphasis is on outcomes that draw vital support and recognition to Tufts as a leading contributor to the world around us through research, scholarship, and educational outcomes.

There are three funding tiers\*.

**Tier 1 (awards up to \$100K)** is meant to advance large collaborative efforts, build critical mass, and position Tufts to have the highest possible impact and must lead to an extramural proposal of over \$1M/yr (direct cost) for up to 2yrs within 12 months of completion.

**Tier 2 (awards up to \$35K)** supports ambitious research projects that will build collaborative teams with the goal to amplify long-term research, scholarship, and educational endeavors. Extramural applications are strongly encouraged and a detailed continuation plan is required.

**Tier 3 (awards up to \$15K)** can be used for a variety of research, scholarship, and educational innovation. Extramural applications are strongly encouraged and a detailed continuation plan is required.

\*NB: Funding structure and award duration have been revised, please see [website](#) for more details.

Tufts Springboard reflects a desire to create a thriving ecosystem to advance research, scholarship, and educational innovation at multiple stages of magnitude, propelling Tufts to continuing success in this new decade.

## Interdepartmental Research Day Winners

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Several students participated in the virtual TUSDM Post-Doctoral Interdepartmental Research Day on Wednesday June 23, 2021. Postdoctoral students presented their research while judges scored the oral presentations and the winners were chosen:

**1st place: Dr. Caitlin Pyle**

The Medicaid Program: Participation and Perceptions Among Practicing Pediatric Dentists - Principal Investigator: **Dr. Cheen Loo**


**2nd place: Dr. Po Lee**

The Indications for First Molar Extraction at Tufts University, School of Dental Medicine: 12-year Retrospective Study - Principal Investigator: **Dr. Bjorn Steffensen**

**3rd place: Dr. Layal Abdeen**

Accuracy Assessment of 3D Printed Cast Using Zirconia Implant Prosthesis: a Comparative Study in The Anterior Maxilla - Principal Investigator: **Dr. Panagiotis Papaspyridakos**

Thank you to all that made the event possible and such a success: **Dr. Guzin Uzel, Chantelle Beaton, Lucy Killewo, and Shirley Chen** for their numerous instrumental contributions to the event; **Dean Ramesh, Dean Kugel, Dean Karimbux** for their tremendous support of our events and of postdoctoral research; our panel of judges for their time and expertise; and all of the presenters and audience members. All of the talks were excellent, so congratulations to everyone who presented.



## Outstanding Contributions to Dental Research Winners

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Every year TUSDM selects a student or students to win the Award for Outstanding Contributions to Dental Research by a Post-Doctoral Student. Unlike the awards offered to students at Interdepartmental Research Day, this award is not based solely on the quality of a single research project that the student conducted. Instead, it is based on the student's overall contribution to research while at TUSDM. Faculty make nominations, and a committee selects the winner(s). This year's Award for Outstanding Contributions to Dental Research by a Post-Doctoral Student are **Dr. Lin-Hsin Chuang** (Assistant Professor in Periodontology) and **Dr. Po Lee** (MS and PG certificate student in Periodontology). Both students have made outstanding contributions to the research at the dental school. Terrific work, Dr. Chuang and Dr. Lee!

## Service with a Smile



TUSDM's Service With a Smile Program is proud to announce that it has received a grant from the Disabled Veterans National Foundation (DVNF) for \$20,000! The award from DVNF is the largest funding the program has received to date.

The funds will be used to support the complete dental treatment for approximately 15 veterans screened at the New England Center and Home for Veterans (NECHV). In addition, Service With a Smile is hoping to utilize funds to expand its program and partner with other Veteran Resource Centers in the Greater Boston area.

Service With A Smile was founded in 2019 by two Iraq War combat veterans and students at TUSDM, **Dr. Brent Mullen (D20)** and **Dr. Keith Nguyen (D20)**, who are now serving in the Army as dentists. They had a vision to give back to their veteran comrades and to honor their friends whom they served with who made the ultimate sacrifice for the love of their country.

Service With A Smile aims to: 1) Increase access to oral health care for veterans experiencing homelessness or living in Veterans homes that are not eligible for services elsewhere; 2) Increase awareness of oral health needs of veterans among TUSDM faculty and students; 3) Pair third and fourth year student dental clinician providers at TUSDM with veterans who are in need of dental care; and 4) Give first and second year dental students the experience of providing oral health education in community settings.

The project is led by **Professor Kathryn Dolan** (RDH, Med), Director of the Tufts Community Oral Health Outreach program within the Department of Public Health and Community Service and **Dr. Gerard Kugel** DMD, MS, PhD, Associate Dean for Research and Professor, Department of Comprehensive Care. Service With A Smile's goal is to connect each veteran, especially those experiencing homelessness, to a dental home for comprehensive oral health care.

DVNF provides critically needed support to disabled and at-risk veterans by offering direct financial support, providing online resources, and serving as a leader on veteran's policy issues. More information can be found at <https://www.dvnf.org/>.

Service With A Smile is always looking for volunteers and support! If you are interested in getting involved in the TUSDM Service With a Smile Program, donating materials and supplies, or sponsoring a veteran please contact [Kathryn Dolan](#). If you are interested in making a fiscal contribution to the program please visit <https://servicewithasmile-veterans.org/donate/>.

## Researchers in the News



The Society for In Vitro Biology featured **Oluwayemisi Awobode** (Intern in Dr. Alt-Holland's lab, B.A. 2020 Pine Manor College) and her research mentor **Dr. Addy Alt-Holland** (Associate Professor in Endodontics) in their "You've Got This!" section. Oluwayemisi met Dr. Alt-Holland through the Pine Manor College (PMC) Internship Program, which introduces students to environments aligned with their interests and allows them to explore and experiment. The partnership with PMC and Tufts University allowed Oluwayemisi to join Dr. Alt-Holland's lab as a research intern.

Oluwayemisi continues to work with Dr. Alt-Holland even after graduating from PMC with a BA in Biology and a Minor in English Literature and Creative Writing. Ms. Awobode shares her COVID-19 pandemic challenges and insights in her writing piece titled "My Groundhog Year". If you would like to read more, please click [here](#).



## D25 Dean's Research Scholars

A warm welcome to the newest Dean's Research Scholars, from the D25 class! The five incoming students chosen for the research scholarship this year are **Lujane Barakat, Ainsley Chung, Megha Kanabar, Daniel Won, and Jae Jung**. They will be choosing faculty research mentors this fall and will be meeting regularly in preparation for submitting a proposal for next summer's research.

They join the following upperclassmen who have been involved in the program for several years: D24: **Ashley Blanc-Feodore, Cassandra Escobedo, Anna Kim, Olivia Marino, Nicholas Wong**; D23: **Tamara Biary, Natasha Fansiwala, Johnson Fong, Jiahui Huang, Maxwell Perelgut**; D22: **Matthew Evers, Ashley Gagnon, Gina Kim, and Mark Tanchanco**.

## DRA Updates



A warm welcome to **Elizabeth Foley** to the Dental Research Administration team! As a Senior Research Coordinator Elizabeth works with and under the direction of Principal Investigators to develop, implement and coordinate study protocols & manage the daily clinical trial activities. She works as a team to make sure that everyone in the lab adheres to Good Clinical Practices and to ensure consistency and conformance to the protocol requirements. If you would like to contact her, please email her at [Elizabeth.Foley@tufts.edu](mailto:Elizabeth.Foley@tufts.edu).

Congratulations to **Amanda Lynch** from Dental Research Administration; she has been promoted to Associate Director of Research Administration. In her role as Associate Director she will work with faculty to develop sponsored proposals and manage post-award needs of her portfolio, and assist faculty and staff in navigating new research administration tools and systems. She will administer a varied portfolio including most complex sponsored awards and facilities school-wide and/or cross-school research collaborations. Amanda will review opportunity announcements to gain understanding of requirements, then work with the PI to prepare the grant application. Please congratulate Amanda at [Amanda.Gozzi@tufts.edu](mailto:Amanda.Gozzi@tufts.edu) or at 617-636-0324.



Congratulations to **Sarah Anderson** from Dental Research Administration; she has been promoted to Senior Research Coordinator. Sarah works with and under the direction of the Principal Investigators to develop, implement and coordinate study protocols & manage the daily clinical trial activities. She works as a team to make sure that investigators adhere to Good Clinical Practices and to ensure consistency and conformance to the protocol requirements. Sarah is also responsible for the oversight and supervision of the 14th floor Dental Research Clinic to the Tufts faculty, staff and students providing a safe and sterile facility. She can be reached at [Sarah.Anderson@tufts.edu](mailto:Sarah.Anderson@tufts.edu).

We would like to share the news that **Dr. Yoon Kang**, Assistant Professor for Comprehensive Care, has left Tufts. Dr. Kang departs Tufts after five years of dedicated work and research to the University. His last day with the Dental Research Administration was on October 1st. Please join us in wishing Dr. Kang well at his next position. [Yoon.Kang@tufts.edu](mailto:Yoon.Kang@tufts.edu)



**Chantelle Beaton**, Staff Assistant for Dental Research Administration Team, has left Tufts to pursue an opportunity in the City of Boston. Her last day at the University was September 1st.

Dental Research Administration is very appreciative of **Dr. Kang** and **Chantelle's** work and contributions to the University. Please join us in thanking and wishing them the very best as they take the next step in their professional journey.



### Translational Research Lecture Series 2021

Dental Research Administration is hosting a Translational Research Lecture on **Tuesday November 16th at 12pm via Zoom**. This lecture will feature, **Dr. Sergi X. Trilla**, MBA, President & CEO, Trifermed and Adjunct Professor, The Forsyth Institute. The title of the lecture will be, “Translational Research: from incremental, hypothesis-driven, governmentally supported research to return on investment”.

Dr. Trilla brings nearly thirty years of experience in healthcare business, including 22 years in international business development. As a qualified MD, Dr. Trilla connects two vastly disparate fields of health and business. After a career that included service inside various pharmaceutical companies, Dr. Trilla founded trifermed in 2002, a business service provider specializing in orchestrating worldwide partnerships for health solutions (including corporate strategy, business development, fundraising, among others). He is also a frequent speaker at international congresses and mentors different programs in public and private business and science universities. To attend and register for this lecture please follow this [link](#).



### Join DRA E-List



Dental Research Administration sends out a weekly email communication that includes research updates, COVID-19 research policies and procedures, upcoming trainings/workshops, and funding opportunities. To join the e-list please complete the Qualtrics form by clicking on this link, [Dental Research E-List](#).

### IADR 2021—Virtual Conference Recap

The International Association of Dental Research (IADR) General Session & Exhibition was held virtually in July 2021. Tufts was well represented at the meeting, by having 22 student presenters and 4 faculty members present their research either by poster or oral presentation.

Tufts was the recipient of several awards at the IADR conference. Each U.S. dental school is given the opportunity to select one student for participation in the Student Competition for Advancing Dental Research and its Application (SCADA), and **Grace Call** (D23) represented Tufts at the meeting. **Andy Cheung** (D21) received the 2021 AADR Bloc Travel Grant Award, for the scientific excellence of his research abstract. **Dr. Mariam Margvelashvili-Malament**, Assistant Professor in the Department of Prosthodontics, won the Neal Garrett Award which recognizes clinically focused and patient centered original research. **Katie Dunn**, Assistant Director of Predoctoral Research, was selected for a second term as secretary/treasurer for the Student Training and Research (STAR) Network. Congratulations to all!!

### TALENT Committee TREE Funds

The members of TUSDM’s Teaching and Learning in an Environment of New Technology (T.A.L.E.N.T.) committee wanted to take a moment to remind the faculty and staff of the TUSDM commitment to support faculty/staff at every level of development of their innovative ideas for teaching and learning, professional development and educational research at TUSDM.

TUSDM Teaching, Research & Education Enhancement (T.R.E.E.) Fund grants are available to support professional development and educational research projects for the academic year 2021-2022.

The T.A.L.E.N.T. committee is ready to accept proposals with an expedited review process. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis, and funds are limited so submit your proposal as soon as possible. In the past academic year 2020-2021, this fund supported 7 faculty members and they kindly reported on the impact this support had on their individual development, and also the TUSDM community.


2020– 2021 T.A.L.E.N.T. group members: Dr. Irina Dragan (Co-Chair), Kristen Dunn, Dr. Matthew Finkelman, Dr. Jonathan Garlick, Dr. Krista Johansen, Dr. Natalie Jeong, Dr. Olympia Karacosta, Dr. Ellen Patterson, and Dr. Peter Arsenault.

More information on the applications can be found [here](#). We look forward to receive your applications.


## TUSDM T.R.E.E. Fund Awardees 2020-2021

**T**EACHING, **R**ESearch & **E**DUcATION **E**NHANCEMENT


This fund for professional development and educational research is supported by the T.A.L.E.N.T. Committee.




**Rocio Saavedra**  
Pediatric Dentistry




**Nadine Tassabehji**  
Comprehensive Care




**Thaisa Bordin**  
Prosthodontics




**Ellen Patterson**  
Comprehensive Care




**Vasiliki Tsakalelli**  
Prosthodontics



**Konstantinos Vazouras**  
Prosthodontics




**Tufts** School of  
Dental Medicine




**Gabriela Lagreca**  
Prosthodontics

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Professional development programs that the faculty above attended were offered by:




Harvard Macy Institute  
[harvardmacy.org](http://harvardmacy.org)



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DENTAL EDUCATION



UMASS  
BOSTON



AAL  
ACADEMY FOR ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP

<https://sites.tufts.edu/tusdmtalent/tree/>

Dental Research Administration  
1 Kneeland St. DHS 1513  
Boston, MA 02111  
P: 617 636-4045  
F: 617 636-6511  
<https://sites.tufts.edu/dentalresearch/>



### Recently Awarded Grants

Please see the list below of grants awarded since last spring, and join us in congratulating the Principal Investigators and associated research team members for their accomplishments.

Principal Investigator	Funding Agency	Award Amount	Project Title
Andrea Ferreira Zandona	Corporation	\$8,319.00	Statistical Support- Examiner ICDAS Calibration
Gerard Kugel	Gift	\$12,000.00	Wear Analysis of 3D Printed Night Guards vs Lab Manufactured Night Guards
Gili Naveh	Federal	\$540,616	Non uniformity in the PDL: structure and function of the dense collar
Jonathan Garlick	Corporate	\$13,387	Organogenesis #34
Kathryn Dolan	Foundation	\$20,000	TUSDM Service with a Smile
Ronald Perry	Corporation	\$64,938.00	Salivary levels of hydrogen peroxide after use of whiten-

### NIH Deadlines

Please note these upcoming NIH Deadlines. If you wish to apply for any of these awards please contact your local Research Administrator as soon as possible.

Click [here](#) for a link to the NIH Deadlines.

	Receipt Cycle I	Receipt Cycle II	Receipt Cycle III
<b>Research Grants – R01</b> (Investigator-initiated basic and applied research) <i>new</i>	February 5	June 5	October 5
<b>Research Grants – R01</b> (Investigator-initiated basic and applied research) <i>renewal, resubmission, revision</i>	March 5	July 5	November 5
<b>Research Grants – R21</b> (Exploratory/Developmental) <i>new</i>	February 16	June 16	October 16
<b>Research Grants – R21</b> (Exploratory/Developmental) <i>renewal, resubmission, revision</i>	March 16	July 16	November 16
<b>Career Development – K series</b> <i>new</i>	February 12	June 12	October 12
<b>Career Development – K series</b> <i>renewal, resubmission, revision</i>	March 12	July 12	November 12
<b>Conference Grants – R13</b> <i>new, renewal, resubmission, revision</i>	April 12	August 12	December 12
<b>Academic Research Enhancement Award (AREA) – R15</b> <i>new, renewal, resubmission, revision</i>	February 25	June 25	October 25
<b>SBIR/STTR Grants – R43, R44, R41, R42</b> <i>new, renewal, resubmission, revision</i>	September 5	January 5	April 5
<b>AIDS and AIDS-Related Grants</b> All mechanisms listed above <i>new, renewal, resubmission, revision</i>	May 7	September 7	January 7
<b>Research Grant Supplements (Diversity, Re-Entry)</b> <i>new</i>	No set deadline		