Dr. Jacinto Beard: Focused on the Future
Corrections and Clarifications

In the Summer 2023 edition of the Dental Journal, Vol. 11, Issue No. 1, Joseph Sexton, ’92 DDS, was mistakenly included in “In Memoriam.” We are happy to share that Dr. Sexton is alive and well.

In the Summer 2023 edition of the Dental Journal, Vol. 11, Issue No. 1, a current student was credited with forming a new student organization, Special Care Dentistry, along with “other dental students.” To clarify, Michael Thomas II, ’21 DDS, was the founder and first president of the Special Care Dentistry organization.
Dear Colleagues:

Each issue of the Dental Journal is special in its own way, but they all have one goal – to keep you informed about the great things that are happening in the college. As always, we share stories about the students, staff, and faculty who make the college what it is, and we share news about the alums who are our “success stories.”

Here is a sampling of what you’ll see.

We start with our cover story that features Dr. Jacinto Beard, a graduate of the Class of 1990 and a general dentist in Columbus. In addition to serving the local community as an oral healthcare provider for more than 30 years, Dr. Beard was recently asked to join The Ohio State University Foundation Board. He is the first College of Dentistry alumnus to serve in that significant role, and we are so pleased that he is there to represent us.

From there we recognize the dental students–now alums–who recently received Molina Scholarships. These awards support students who want to practice in underserved communities. We are especially proud of this scholarship and those who benefit from it because they will impact the lives of patients who otherwise would have little or no access to oral healthcare.

We also include updates about our newest classes of dental hygiene and dental students. As you get to know a bit about these members of the student body, you will notice some changes that are part of a nationwide trend that is apparent in our college – for example, freshman dental classes with more women than men. There is a reverse trend in the dental hygiene profession.

Then the spotlight turns to our alums who won numerous awards at this year’s Annual Session of the Ohio Dental Association. We are proud of our graduates who were honored. Dr. Sharon Parsons won the Joseph P. Crowley Distinguished Dentist Award. Dr. Michael Thomas received the ODA Achievement Award. Dr. Jeffrey Yoest was presented with the Marvin Fisk Humanitarian Award. Dr. Bob Nelson received the Leadership Pin Award. And Dr. Hal Jeter was announced as President-Elect of the Ohio Dental Association.

On to our faculty, starting with John Sheridan, PhD, a professor in the Division of Biosciences and Susan R. Mallery, DDS, PhD, chair of the Division of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology. They are the principal investigators on a $2.6M, five-year T32 training grant from the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research, a branch of the National Institutes of Health, titled “Multidisciplinary Research Training in Dental, Oral, and Craniofacial Sciences.” This grant was awarded to the college to support students who wish to pursue PhD training to become academicians and clinician scientists.

Another faculty-focused article showcases the work of Lisa Knobloch, DDS, MS, a Professor and Vice Chair of the Division of Restorative and Prosthetic Dentistry, and her colleague, Ana Mercado, DMD, PhD, an Assistant Professor-Clinical in the Division of Orthodontics and Co-Director of the Orthodontic Craniofacial Program at Nationwide Children’s Hospital in Columbus. Both provide care for children with ectodermal dysplasia, a congenital disorder that can cause malformed or missing teeth and, in severe cases, no teeth at all. Drs. Knobloch and Mercado recently traveled to Washington, D.C. to lobby for increased support for ectodermal dysplasia patients.

These are just some of the items you will see in this magazine, along with recent grants and awards, faculty publications, and photos from events such as Homecoming and the White Coat Ceremony. I hope you are inspired by the people, the progress, and the success stories we share this time around.

Very best regards,

Dean Carroll Ann Trotman, BDS, MA, MS
Students and Alumni–

I hope you are enjoying the holiday season. Our newest dental and dental hygiene students have just wrapped up their first semester—bravo to all! Thank you to the outstanding professors, clinic instructors, administration, and support staff for providing a learning environment that promotes skill building and curiosity among the students. The Dental Alumni Society cheers you on as you navigate courses, patient care, and competencies.

I’d love to take a minute to talk about collaboration in the dental profession. The newest and most impactful collaboration that directly affects our licensure is occurring between the Department of Defense, the American Dental Association, the American Dental Hygienists Association, and the Council of State Government. These groups worked towards a common goal: “to facilitate the interstate practice of dentistry and dental hygiene and improve public access to dentistry and dental hygiene services by providing Dentists and Dental Hygienists licensed in a Participating State the ability to practice in Participating States in which they are not licensed” (1).

Legislation has begun, and states are voting on inclusion in the compact. The opportunities this collaborative effort presents are expanding daily, and I look forward to utilizing the compact as a military spouse and dental hygienist.

I would love to encourage you to look at other potential collaborations in your life that can bring satisfaction, not just for yourself but for others. A study group with classmates can lead to peer collaboration post-graduation. The practice groups within Postle, where dental and dental hygiene students collaborate on patient care, can lay the groundwork for a future where collaboration within a dental practice increases productivity and job satisfaction. Students are so fortunate at the College of Dentistry to have the opportunity to nurture these professional relationships early on in their careers and see the value of dental clinician collaboration among dentists, dental hygienists, dental assistants, and dental specialists.

The wealth that comes from knowledge, skill, and goal collaboration is immeasurable. Communicating knowledge that fuels tasks that support a collaborative goal can create strong teams of employees with high levels
of trust and a positive workplace culture. One of my favorite employers focused on collaboration among the dental team, allowing me to feel heard, supported, and valued as a clinician. We worked towards the same goal: patient-centered care. The patients were receptive, we built trust, and the practice was highly productive as a result.

Similarly, the Dental Alumni Society invites you to collaborate in a shared goal: to celebrate student milestones and create lasting alum memories through community-oriented programming. We are currently planning the 2024 calendar of events, which include continuing education courses, student lunch and learns, Homecoming tailgate, White Coat Ceremony (DAS pays for the white coats), Convocation (DAS sponsors Buckeye Donuts breakfast at practice), and collaboration amongst our members outline what we hope to create within the Society. What can we collaborate with you on?

We would love to hear your input and stay connected! Our combined knowledge and skills can bring greater satisfaction within the College of Dentistry.

Dental Journal

Yours in Collaboration,

Kelly Divito, ’08 BSDH, MS, RDH
President, Ohio State Dental Alumni Society

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Dr. Jacinto Beard:
Focused on the Future

It would be hard to find a more dedicated champion of the College of Dentistry or of The Ohio State University than Jacinto Beard, ’90 DDS. His recent appointment to the university’s Foundation Board of Directors is the first such appointment of a College of Dentistry alumnus. But it is only the latest in a lengthy list of positions in which he has used his time and talents to benefit Ohio State, its students, and the dental profession itself.

The road to his stellar career began with a B.S. in biology from Gannon University, in his hometown of Erie, PA. Then, it was on to Ohio State, where he received a scholarship for dental school—assistance he has never forgotten. That’s where he met his wife, Karen Stansberry Beard, ’08 PhD. She was then pursuing a Master’s in Educational Administration in the department where she is now an associate professor. They met on a blind date arranged by one of his patients. “It was during my junior year,” Dr. Beard remembers. “The patient kept telling me I should meet his sister-in-law. He needed a lot of dental treatment, and I wanted him to come back for all his appointments, so I called her and that began our relationship.”

That was thirty-three years ago. “I graduated on a Friday, and we were married that Sunday,” he said. The newlyweds immediately went to Erie, where Dr. Beard worked as dental director for Primary Health Care of Pennsylvania. In 1993, they returned to Columbus, his wife’s hometown, and Dr. Beard opened his first private practice, in the Northland community. “I started the office from scratch, renovating a building, with no patients yet,” he said. While building a clientele, he worked part-time for the Ohio Department of Corrections and was a consultant to the Ohio Department of Medicaid.

Today, Dr. Beard owns two practices in Columbus. He opened the second office specifically to meet the needs of patients on Medicaid. He has served on numerous boards and committees and received a list of honors too extensive to name. He is a past president of the Columbus Dental Society, the Columbus Association of Dentists and the College of Dentistry’s Dental Alumni Society.

Having served on the Ohio Dental Board, he was responsible for enforcing a standard in dentistry that protects the public through licensure and education. He has also been a delegate to the Ohio, American and National dental associations.

Closest to his heart, though, is his volunteer work. He donates dental services through the Remote Area Medical free clinic, Physicians Care Connection, Colgate Healthy Smiles’ mobile dental unit, and other church and community service projects.

As the national dental director for Molina Healthcare, he was instrumental in securing Molina Healthcare scholarships for the College of Dentistry. “When I chose to attend Ohio State’s dental school, I received a scholarship. I appreciated that, and I know how transformative it has been in my life,” he said. Recipients of the Molina Scholarship have expressed an interest in practicing in underserved communities in Ohio and accepting Medicaid.
What are his goals on the university’s Foundation Board? “I want to network with others on the Board to help Ohio State generally, to bring more public awareness to the College of Dentistry, and to help make it possible for more students to attend dental school. The university has set a goal to provide a path to free undergraduate education to all students. I’m excited to be a part of that by helping raise funds. If we could eliminate tuition for most freshman students, we could set an example for the nation to follow.”

With so many accomplishments behind him, Dr. Beard’s vision for the future is exciting and ambitious. With his son, David, ’13 BS, DDS, now a dentist and part of Beard Family Dentistry, daughter, Elisabeth, ’17 BS, a senior in dental hygiene school, and son, Matthew, ’20 BS, a third-year dental student, it seems likely that the expertise and community focus of the Beard family will continue for many years.

“I want to network with others on the Board to help Ohio State generally, to bring more public awareness to the college, and to help make it possible for more students to attend dental school.”

Jacinto Beard, ’90 DDS
Established at the college in 2021 and funded by the nonprofit Molina Foundation, the Molina Healthcare Scholarship helps committed students pursue their dream of providing care to indigent patients in federally designated Dental Professional Shortage Areas in Ohio. Two recipients of the scholarship already exemplify its lofty purpose of addressing health disparities in dental care. Here are their stories.

Davern Holloway, ’23 DDS

In barely three decades on this planet, Dr. Davern Holloway has already done more to benefit the world than most people do in a lifetime. To hear her discuss her education and career trajectory is to understand how passionate she is about helping people in underserved communities.

Born on Long Island, New York, to missionary parents, she says, “They instilled in me a love for God and a heart for serving others.” By the time she was eighteen, she had lived in ten countries in and around the African continent, giving her an early awareness of the plight of disadvantaged communities.

Returning to the States, she studied pre-law and history at Washington Adventist University in Maryland, graduating summa cum laude. She planned to become an international lawyer, but the pre-law focus on policy and research made her realize she wanted to be more directly involved in affecting lives. So she earned a master’s degree at Brandeis in sustainable international development. As part of her thesis research, she spent eight months working with rural populations in Madagascar. It was an experience that ignited her interest in health care and altered her career trajectory.

Her decision also required lengthy re-education—eight more years—since she had no science courses behind her. She completed some courses in Southern California and the rest at Wright State University after moving to Dayton, Ohio, where her husband, Christopher Holloway, MD, was a medical resident.

While working with the Weimer Institute in California, she attended a Pathways to Health event in San Francisco. “It was then that I learned how scarce dental care is in some U.S. communities,” she said.

In 2019, the couple moved to Columbus, where Davern attended the College of Dentistry. “With two other degrees, going back to school was tough,” she said, “but I realized the impact a dental career would have. The financial burden was heavy, but the two-year Molina scholarship made it possible to pursue a career in less lucrative areas.”

While still in school, she worked with her husband and other young professionals to start a nonprofit called BRIGHT. Their goal is to advocate for communities via educational development and expanding access to high-value holistic care. Through mentorship, they also encourage minority youth to pursue careers in health care.

Dr. Holloway’s dream is to own a mobile clinic that can take dental care into underserved communities.

Next summer, when she completes her GPR residency at the College of Dentistry, Dr. Holloway and her husband will join other health professionals traveling to Ghana to provide health care, using their
own money and funds they've raised for equipment and medicine. The Holloways will be taking along their new daughter, August (named for the poet/playwright), who will be two years old by then. If young August continues the family tradition, she will likely spend her life in service to others.

**Mosep Okonny, ’22 DDS**

A fractured tooth at age eight, and the excellent dental care she received then, influenced the career choice for Dr. Mosep Okonny. “The dentist jokingly asked me to become a dentist one day,” she remembers. “It was the first time I had ever seen a Black female dentist and I was mesmerized by the way she could fix my tooth. It was like magic to me.”

Born in Nigeria, Dr. Okonny still has a large, extended family there. She and her mother and sister immigrated to the United States when she was eight, joining her father, who was then working in retail in Cincinnati. That’s where she had the “magic” dental care.

Dr. Okonny says she always enjoyed working with her hands, but helping people was a prime motivator in her decision to become a dentist. “The Molina Scholarship meant the world to me,” she says. “It gave me much-needed peace of mind as I was wrapping up my final year of dental school. It also helped me feel more comfortable with my decision to return to my Cincinnati neighborhood to practice.”

The neighborhood where she grew up is ironically named Mt. Healthy. The area is in north-central Cincinnati and has about 7,000 residents, with a median income of $24,000*. The clinic where Dr. Okonny practices is designated as a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC), serving low-income patients and those who cannot use private-pay facilities. “Our clinic and other local sites serve as a safety net, providing preventive care, restorations, and extractions to patients in need,” she said. Another irony is that she currently works with that dentist who inspired her career choice so many years ago, Lynda Roberts-Riddle, DDS.

Dr. Okonny not only returned to her old neighborhood, she also returned to her high school—this time as a caregiver and inspiring role model. “I’m blessed with the opportunity to provide dental care in my old high school. I enjoy working in that environment, and I like to tell the students my story and show them they can also achieve if they work hard and are determined.”

Last summer, Dr. Okonny was married—twice. The first was an American ceremony, and the next day, the couple had a Nigerian ceremony to honor the traditions of her heritage. Her new husband, Jared Knueven, works in IT as an integration engineer in Cincinnati. Avid soccer fans, the couple can be found on weekends at FC Cincinnati games with her in-laws cheering the Orange and Blue. Like her favorite team, Dr. Mosep Okonny is winning hearts in Mt. Healthy doing what she cares most about: helping people.

*U.S. Census at census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/mounthealthycityohio/PST045222
If it is true—as some say—that art connects us, then the Columbus Art Museum was an ideal location for the college’s major donor event in August. There, donors connected with scholarship recipients who have benefited from their generous gifts. During remarks, third-year dental student Joanna Wang shared how a connection with her dentist in Cleveland made her finally feel she wasn’t an outsider. “After moving often because of my father’s job, one of the first people who made me feel a sense of belonging was my dentist, who remembered little details about my life at each appointment and really cared about me,” Joanna said. “This person inspired me to become a dentist, because I also wanted to be a steadfast figure in the community who could be relied on year after year to help and heal those around me.”

Fourth-year dental student Storm Mohn, who is from a small Appalachian farm village, discussed how his scholarship—and his connection to Ohio State—is helping him achieve his dream of returning to his hometown to take over for the town dentist. “Since my first visit to campus, I was hooked on the atmosphere,” he said. “It was the only school on my mind when applying to dental school. From the first interaction with administration to getting to work with them weekly as the class president, it truly has felt like I have been heard.”

Dean Carroll Ann Trotman thanked the donors for their connection to the college, and for their generous support. “Thanks to you, 115 students received a total of approximately $950,000 in scholarship support this academic year,” she said. “There are no more generous alumni and friends than you—Ohio State’s Buckeyes!”

01 Thomas Theil, ’94 DDS, and Gretchen Theil

02 Joanna Wang ’25 (DDS) at the podium.

03 Michael Masonbrink, ’71 DDS

04 Gary Bitonte, ’69 BS, ’73 MD, and Dean Carroll Ann Trotman

05 Storm Mohn ’24 (DDS)

06 Jeffrey Kleinman, ’76 DDS, and Yana Kaz-Kleinman, DMD
There are no more generous alumni and friends than you—Ohio State’s Buckeyes!”

Dean Carroll Ann Trotman
In her 93 years, Professor Emerita Ruth Paulson has seen the winds of change shift demographics in the dental profession. Her father was a medical doctor, a career dominated by men in 1940s Latvia, her home country. Her mother was a dentist, which was considered a profession for women there. Dr. Paulson (Ruth) was fourteen when the family fled the country as Russia invaded Latvia in 1944. They spent the next six years in Germany in several camps for “displaced persons,” where Ruth finished high school. In 1950, the family was able to acquire a U.S. sponsor—the superintendent of Dorothea Dix Hospital, the state mental hospital—and emigrated to Raleigh, NC, where her father was offered a position as a physician at the same hospital.

Ruth’s mother was prevented from practicing in North Carolina—even with a degree in dentistry from the University of Latvia—because the state required a degree from an accredited U.S. institution. When Ruth enrolled in dental school after earning a B.S. in chemistry from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, she was the only woman in her class of 50.

She met her future husband, the late George Paulson, MD, professor emeritus in Ohio State’s College of Medicine, when both took summer jobs in occupational therapy at the state hospital in Raleigh. After graduation in 1956, her early career was curtailed by their many professional moves and their growing family, which eventually numbered five.
children. When the family moved back to North Carolina, she took part-time positions with the Durham Health Department, and later at Raleigh’s school for the deaf and blind.

In 1967, her husband’s job in Ohio State’s neurology department brought the Paulsons to Columbus. Three years later, Ruth was offered a part-time position in the Division of Oral Biology (now the Division of Biosciences) as an instructor. Over time, her hours increased to full-time, and she remained in the division for 25 years. She retired in 1996 as an associate professor. Her research areas were teratology and scanning electron microscopy studies of tooth structures.

U.S. freed women to look into new options.”

She said that mentoring students was one of the best things she did during her career. She admired the late Dr. Nancy Reynolds-Goorey, an assistant dean of the college, who led the dental hygiene program. “Mentorship and role models are important,” she said. “It’s important for a woman to see someone and think, ‘I can do this.’ Young women found themselves in a sea of men, and they needed to feel that they belonged.” To help empower her students, she held informal get-togethers at her home and brought in women dentists to talk about how to balance careers and family life.

Some of her students took three-month summer research fellowships. Dr. Paulson encouraged them to submit abstracts for presentation at student research meetings. Those accepted would be sent to the annual meeting of the American Association of Dental Research, and students could list it on their vita.

Dr. Paulson thinks dentistry is a perfect field for women. “It combines science, art and manual skills, and it has the possibility of schedule flexibility.” She believes women in the field are reaching parity and beyond. “We even have a woman dean of the college.”

In retirement, Dr. Paulson took up quilting. She is an avid reader and has volunteered for years at Ohio State University Hospital’s Center for Health Information. Most of all, she enjoys spending time with her family, including her twelve grandchildren. They couldn’t ask for a more inspiring role model.

“Mentorship and role models are important. It’s important for a woman to see someone and think, ‘I can do this.’”

Ruth Paulson, DDS

She was involved in extensive interdisciplinary collaborative work with other departments. During her years in teaching and research, she saw increasing numbers of women enter the profession. “When I started in 1970, I was the second woman dentist on the faculty, and there were no women students in my classes. The next year, there was one student and two the following year. But the numbers grew exponentially after that, as political movements in the
In October, the College of Dentistry welcomed alumni and friends back to campus during Homecoming 2023.

Events kicked off on Friday, October 6, with the Post College Assembly continuing education event in the afternoon and special class celebrations—including the Classes of 1983, 1993, 2003, and 2013—throughout the evening. Also that evening, a large contingent of dental and dental hygiene alumni from the Classes of 1973 gathered at the Hyatt House in Columbus to celebrate their 50th reunion.

On Saturday, an enthusiastic crowd gathered at Postle Hall for the annual Alumni and Friends Tailgate. After enjoying burgers, hot dogs and other tailgate fare for breakfast, alumni headed to Ohio Stadium for the noon kick-off. There, fans cheered on the Buckeyes as they trounced the Maryland Terrapins. It was another memorable homecoming!
Building a Winning Float

During Homecoming 2023, College of Dentistry dental and dental hygiene students took home Ohio State’s first-place float-building trophy for the seventh year in a row! Here is a peek inside their successful float-building process:
01

Start with a good plan.
Over time, the College of Dentistry float-building teams realized that an important key to a winning float is movement (shhh...don’t tell the competition). This year, with the power of string and a hidden string-pulling student, Brutus’ leg reared back and then forward to “kick” a terrapin-shaped football over a goal post.

02

Pull together an enthusiastic team.
In the week leading up to the parade, students volunteered their time to build the float at Ohio Stadium. Some of the many things they had in common were a spirit of camaraderie and the desire to win!

03

Never let them see you sweat.
An hour before the parade, the float team found much of the float had toppled thanks to strong gusts of wind. The team never faltered. They quickly came together, did some creative patching, and garnered the college’s seventh win. “The perseverance and sheer overcoming of adversity they showed in those moments really impressed me,” said associated faculty member Mark Gordon, ’74 DDS, MS, who helped design and build the float. “Those traits are also important in dentistry. I was so proud of those students.”
Alumni in the Spotlight During the Ohio Dental Association’s Annual Session

Several College of Dentistry alumni were recognized during the ODA Annual Session in September. Congratulations!

Harold Jeter, ’95 DDS, Installed Ohio Dental Association President-Elect

Dr. Harold Jeter was installed as the Ohio Dental Association (ODA) president-elect during the Annual Session. As president-elect, Dr. Jeter will serve on the ODA’s Executive Committee overseeing the management of the association throughout the next year.

A general dentist in the Southern Ohio village of South Point, Dr. Jeter is a past president of the Southern Ohio Dental Society, past chair of the ODA Council on Access to Care and Public Service, past member of the ODA Council on Membership Services, and current member of the ODA Council on Dental Care Programs and Dental Practice.

The Ohio Dental Association represents more than 5,000 member dentists.

Robert Nelson, ’62 DDS, Receives Ohio Dental Association Leadership Pin

Dr. Robert Nelson was awarded the ODA Leadership Pin at the Callahan Celebration of Excellence, held in conjunction with the 157th ODA Annual Session.

Dr. Nelson has built strong relationships with legislators in southern Ohio, who look to him for guidance when it comes to legislation related to dentistry. He has been invested in helping achieve the ODA’s goals and objectives during his time spent volunteering on many ODA committees. In 2022, he marked his 60th year as a licensed dentist in Ohio.

The ODA Leadership Pin recognizes members who demonstrate leadership in service to the ODA and their peers, a high level of volunteerism within the profession, and a commitment to organized dentistry. The ODA Executive Committee selects a recipient who is a positive influence on the growth and development of the ODA and who is a true role model for future leaders in organized dentistry.

Sharon Parsons, ’81 DDS, Recognized with the Joseph P. Crowley Distinguished Dentist Award

Dr. Sharon Parsons, a general dentist in Columbus, Ohio, received the 2023 Ohio Dental Association Joseph P. Crowley Distinguished Dentist Award. Dr. Parsons served as president of the ODA during the COVID-19 pandemic shutdown.

“Dr. Parsons’ swift action and leadership as president of the Ohio Dental Association [during the pandemic] allowed all dentists in Ohio to continue to safely protect our businesses and provide the care our patients desperately needed – she truly exhibited the virtues of a distinguished dentist,” wrote Dr. Kyle Bogan on behalf of the Columbus Dental Society Honors and Awards Committee in his nomination letter.

The Joseph P. Crowley Distinguished Dentist Award is the ODA’s most prestigious award. It is given to a leader in the profession committed to the advancement of dentistry who is dedicated and committed to organized dentistry at the local, state and national level.
Michael Thomas, ’92 DDS,
Receives the Ohio Dental Association Achievement Award

Dr. Michael Thomas, a general dentist in Canton, Ohio, received the Ohio Dental Association Achievement Award. Dr. Thomas served as the 100th president of the Stark County Dental Society (SCDS).

“Over the years, Dr. Mike has held nearly every office and been a true leader in the initiation and development of our society’s major advancements,” wrote nominators Dr. James Fanno, a past president of the ODA and SCDS; Dr. Ronald Stanich, a past president of the ODA and SCDS; Dr. Thomas Paumier, a past president of the ODA and SCDS; and Dr. Stephen Dowell, president of SCDS.

The Achievement Award is given to someone with a personal and professional commitment to the dental profession and the public’s oral health, and who is an ambassador for the dental profession with solid respect for the profession.

Jeffrey Yoest, ’80 DDS,
Presented with the Marvin Fisk Humanitarian Award

Retired general dentist Jeffrey Yoest, ’80 DDS, was presented with the Marvin Fisk Humanitarian Award, recognizing his dedication to helping the underserved.

“Jeff has shown his commitment to the dental profession by faithfully volunteering his time to serve many patients in need,” wrote nominator Dr. James Cottle, assistant professor-clinical in the Division of Restorative and Prosthetic Dentistry and director of the College of Dentistry’s Office of Community Education and Outreach. “He is the perfect example of someone who demonstrates the qualities our society expects from health care professionals.”

Dr. Yoest retired in 2022 after 41 years as a practicing dentist, but he continues to provide dental care as a volunteer.

From ODA Press Release

College Hosts Alumni During the ODA Annual Session

The college welcomed alumni and friends during a reception at the Ohio Dental Association (ODA) Annual Session in September.
DDS CLASS OF 2027

By the Numbers

Received Applications
1548

Verified Applications
1102

GENDER
Female
69
Male
51

ACADEMIC DATA

Avg. Total GPA
3.72
Science GPA
3.64
DAT AA
21
DAT TS
20.5
DAT PAT
20.9

Avg. Age
22
Age Range
20-36
First Generation Students

18

URM*

03

African American

03

White

92

Two+ Races or Ethnicities

01

Did Not Reply

02

Asian

22

RACE/ETHNICITY

First Generation Students 18

RESIDENCY

CA 01

UT 05

TX 01

MI 02

IL 02

OH 104

VA 01

MA 01

NC 01

FL 02

*Underrepresented Minority (URM) means those racial or ethnic populations that are underrepresented in the dental profession relative to their numbers in the general population.

09 OH Appalachian Students
DHY CLASS OF 2025

By the Numbers

Received Applications
- 62

GENDER
- Female: 32
- Male: 03

14 Pell Recipients
05 DPSA

ACADEMIC DATA
- Avg. Total GPA: 3.44
- Science GPA: 3.31

Avg. Age: 22
Age Range: 19-33
*Underrepresented Minority (URM) means those racial or ethnic populations that are underrepresented in the dental profession relative to their numbers in the general population.
In an important college tradition, Darryl Hamamoto, DDS, PhD, associate dean for Academic Affairs, and Carroll Ann Trotman, DDS, MA, MS, dean of the College of Dentistry, officially welcomed first-year dental and dental hygiene students during the college’s annual White Coat Ceremony in August. Joined on stage by faculty and special guests representing alumni and organized dentistry, Dean Trotman explained the significance of the white coat. “We have all felt a sense of transformation the first time we donned our white coat—and you will feel it, too,” she said. “It symbolizes your acceptance of the responsibilities and commitments that go along with your entry into the profession. Now, as you begin your education and training, you have an opportunity to gain the expertise that will give you a rewarding career and enable you to do great things. Your future is full of exciting possibilities, and we’re all so glad you are here!”

Special guests (from left) Dental Alumni Society Treasurer Dale Anne Featheringham, ’97 DDS, ’00 MS, ’05 MBA; Ohio Dental Association President-elect Harold S. Jeter, ’95 DDS; and (far right) Ohio Dental Hygienist Association President Kelly Oberg, BS, RDH, joined Dean Carroll Ann Trotman on stage.
Welcome New Residents

**Endodontics Residency**
- Vi Dinh, DDS (intern)
- Gregory Gudziak, DDS
- Madeline Malueg, DDS
- Patrick Mugabe, DDS
- Simran Sarao, DDS

**General Practice Residency**
- Clay Blackwell, DDS
- Danielle Frank, DDS
- Karishma Ghandi, DMD
- Fatima Hanif, DDS
- Daven Holloway, DDS

**Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology Residency**
- Gabriella Speakman, DDS
- Rohit Kumar, DDS
- Tyler Neal, DMD
- Esme Rose Patterson, DDS
- Isa Rodriguez, DDS

**Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Residency**
- Alex Daneshgar, DDS (intern)
- Ralph Pierre, DDS
- Ivon Sariol Gell, DMD
- Nicholas Wolsefer, DMD (intern)
Welcome to the dental professionals who recently entered the College of Dentistry’s advanced education programs.
“This new space will support our most important endeavors—educating students and providing patient care.”

Dean Carroll Ann Trotman
NEW ORAL & MAXILLOFACIAL
Radiology Imaging Center

The college will celebrate the New Year by opening a state-of-the-art Oral & Maxillofacial Radiology Imaging Center in early 2024. Construction is nearing completion, and students and faculty alike are eagerly anticipating opening day. “The new center will be in close proximity to the student dental clinics in the Postle Hall expansion,” said Joen Iannucci, DDS, MS, interim chair of the Division of Oral & Maxillofacial Radiology. “Its convenient location and larger size—including 10 rooms for intraoral imaging; three rooms for extraoral imaging; a patient reception area; and viewing, learning and consultation rooms—will create a more efficient and welcoming experience for patients.”

Commenting on the impact of the radiology imaging center, Dean Carroll Ann Trotman said, “This new space will support our most important endeavors—educating students and providing patient care. It will be 1 ½ times larger than the facility we have now, and it will feature state-of-the-art technology. These enhancements will allow us to train students with the best and most contemporary equipment, provide the highest level of care for patients, and create a structure that supports a radiology residency program.”

Watch progress on construction of the new Oral & Maxillofacial Radiology Imaging Center at go.osu.edu/cod-radiology.
College of Dentistry faculty John Sheridan, PhD, professor and training grant director in the Division of Biosciences, and Susan R. Mallery, DDS, chair of the Division of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology, have been awarded a five-year, $2.6M T32 training grant from the National Institute of Dental & Craniofacial Research (NIDCR) of the National Institutes of Health. Other College of Dentistry faculty who were integral for the success of the application included John Bartlett, PhD, associate dean for Research and professor in the Division of Biosciences; Brian Foster, PhD, associate professor in the Division of Biosciences; and Scott Schricker, PhD, director of Student Research and associate professor in the Division of Restorative and Prosthetic Dentistry.

The T32 training grant, titled “Multidisciplinary Research Training in Dental, Oral, and Craniofacial Sciences,” supports the college’s program that provides exceptional training and financial support at a variety of career levels for students/trainees who are dedicated to becoming the next generation of academicians and clinician scientists. Trainees have the opportunity to participate in research in such areas as inflammation and immunity; cancer chemoprevention and biology; psychoneuroimmunology; microbial pathogenesis; dental materials and biomedical engineering; hard tissue biology; and molecular genetics. By virtue of its robust professional-graduate student support, this T32 also directly benefits the college’s graduate and clinician-scientist faculty and expands mentoring and training opportunities.

“This grant will allow the college to continue its dominance in preparing doctoral and
postdoctoral students for careers that have a significant impact on the health-related research needs of the nation,” said Dr. Carroll Ann Trotman, dean of the College of Dentistry.

Dr. Sheridan commented, “This grant supports graduate students, post-doctoral students and dual degree (DDS/PhD) training.” He secured the college's first T32 training grant from the NIDCR in 2001. “The training program has graduated 17 dual degree students, and it is our intention to sustain this momentum,” he said.

Mindful that dentistry was the first health profession to pursue preventative healthcare by advocating for water fluoridation in the 1940s, Dr. Mallery is particularly proud that more students will be trained to conduct research related to preventive dental healthcare. “With this grant, Ohio State-trained researchers can potentially find solutions to the continued disparities in oral health care in underserved communities,” she said. “Nothing is comparable to being given the privilege to provide the foundational, translational and clinical research training for the next generation of dental scientists.”
Recent Grants and Awards

College of Dentistry researchers received $6.39 million in funding for new and continuation grants and contracts in the last year (July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023).

Homa Amini, DDS, MS, MPH
Dental faculty loan repayment program; Health Resources & Services Administration: $50,486

Natalie Andras
The role of bone sialoprotein in modulating periodontal development and repair; National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research: $53,494

Shereen Azer, BDS, MSc, MS
A prospective, observational, multicenter study of the integration success of the Eztetic™ dental implant system in immediate loading cases; Zimmer, Inc.: $32,215

Shereen Azer, BDS, MSc, MS
Post market safety studies; International Consulting Associates, Inc: $200,882

John Bartlett, PhD
Enamelysin processing mechanisms in amelogenesis; National Institute of Dental & Craniofacial Research: $370,500

Michael Chavez, BS
Functional domains of bone sialoprotein in dentoalveolar development and healing + Child care supplement; National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research: $50,094

Brian Foster, PhD
Functions of extracellular matrix proteins in dental and skeletal mineralization; National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research: $370,500

Identifying novel mechanisms for dentoalveolar mineralization defects in x-linked hypophosphatemia; National Institute of Dental & Craniofacial Research: $523,543

Exploratory therapy for the skeletal/dental phenotype in PHOSPHO1 deficiency; Sanford-Burnham: $23,625

Effects of KRN23 on dental mineralization in X-linked hypophosphatemia (XLH); Ultragenyx Pharmaceutical Inc.: $6,973

Ann Griffen, DDS, MS
Microbial sequencing and bioinformatics analysis of salivary and plaque samples; Boston Children's Hospital: $25,000

Kim Hammersmith, DDS, MPH, MS
Postdoctoral Training in General, Pediatric and Public Health Dentistry and Dental Hygiene; Health Resources and Services Administration: $450,000
Justin Kaspar, PhD
Interactions of Streptococcus mutans in supragingival biofilms; National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research: $157,500

Correlation of streptococcus mutans microcolony size to disease potential and therapeutic tolerance; Colgate-Palmolive Company: $30,000

Rachel Kearney, BSDH, MS (Johanna Owen)
Factors that predict burnout or intention to leave the dental hygiene profession; National Center for Dental Hygiene Research and Practice, Inc: $2,500

Rachel Kearney, BSDH, MS (Elizabeth Chartier, BSDH, MS)
Community Oral Health Outreach Program; Delta Dental Plan of Michigan, Inc: $3,000

Ching-Chang Ko, DDS, PhD
Bone morphology characterization of Paget’s disease and osteoporosis by artificial intelligence (AI); American Association of Orthodontists Foundation: $5,802
TRPV1 expressing afferents mediate orthodontic tooth movement via Piezo2; American Association of Orthodontists Foundation: $5,000

Binnaz Leblebicioglu, DDS, PhD
E-cigarettes and perturbations in the subgingival ecosystem; National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research; University of Michigan: $90,314
A prospective, observational clinical study of the safety, effectiveness and clinical performance of the TSX dental implant system; Biomet, Inc: $90,272

Damian Lee, DDS, MS, (Brandon Yeager, DMD)
Error Analysis of Stages Involved In CBCT-Guided Implant Placement with Surgical Guides When Different Printing Technologies Are Use; American Academy of Fixed Prosthodontics: $5,000

Eugene Leys, PhD
Diabetes reversal and the subgingival microbiota; University of Pennsylvania: $226,607

Susan R. Mallery, DDS, PhD
Assessment of chemopreventive effects of a mucoadhesive fenretinide patch on premalignant oral epithelial lesions; National Cancer Institute: $475,395
Formulation, evaluation, and Phase 0 trial of nanoparticle releasing oral thin film for OSCC chemoprevention; National Cancer Institute: $583,736

Chemoprevention by Black Raspberry of Oral Cancer Induced by Tobacco Carcinogens: Translational Studies; University of Pennsylvania: $12,732

Luiz Meirelles, DDS, MS, PhD
Bone healing and perimplant health around a novel implant system; an experimental study in dogs; Zimmer, Inc: $37,314

Leonardo Nassani, DMD, MBA
Impact absorption power of polyofin fused filament 3D printed mouthguards; Academy for Sports Dentistry: $7,500

Kazune Pax
Mommyomics and Babyomics - Effect of Gestational Diabetes on the Developing Infant Microbiome; National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research: $72,449

Sarah Peters, PhD
Mechanisms regulating afferent innervation in the dental pulp; National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research: $243,608
Mechanisms regulating afferent innervation in the dental pulp (Supplement); National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research: $67,382

2023 AADOCR William Butler Fellowship; International Association of Dental Research and American Association of Dental Research: $8,000

Michelle Scott, MS, PhD
E-cigarettes and oral wound healing: an integrated omics approach; National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research: $53,494

John Sheridan, PhD
Multidisciplinary Research Training in Dental, Oral, and Craniofacial Sciences (MARTDOCS); National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research: $525,379
Dynamic cellular interactions associated with inflammatory monocyte accumulation in the neurovasculature with social stress; National Institute of Mental Health: $515,642

Carroll Ann Trotman, BDS, MA, MS
3D dynamic and patient-centered outcomes of facial reanimation surgery in patients with facial paralysis; National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research: $513,684
College of Dentistry Faculty Advocate for Patients in Washington
Ensuring Lasting Smiles Act would help lower specialized treatment cost

By Franny Lazarus, Ohio State News

For every 10,000 births in the world, seven babies are born with a condition known as ectodermal dysplasia. The congenital disorder can affect the hair, nails, sweat glands and teeth. Children with ectodermal dysplasias can have malformed or missing teeth or, in severe cases, no teeth at all. Similarly, children born with a cleft lip or palate also face problems with their teeth and jaws.

To remedy this, specialized dental care is needed. It can be extensive, said Ana Mercado, DMD, ’01 PhD, a clinical associate professor in the Division of Orthodontics at the College of Dentistry and a craniofacial orthodontist at Nationwide Children’s Hospital. The treatment is not just cosmetic, though.

“For the patients we treat, there’s a medical necessity,” she said. “And it impacts their pockets, too, because treatment can be so expensive. Then it’s a financial issue for these families.”

Dr. Mercado and her colleague Lisa Knobloch, ’91 DDS, ’94 MS, professor and vice chair in the Division of Restorative and Prosthetic Dentistry, traveled to Washington, D.C., in September to advocate on behalf of families facing these medical and financial hurdles.

As written, ELSA, or the Ensuring Lasting Smiles Act, “would require all private insurance group and individual health care plans to cover medically necessary services resulting from congenital abnormalities. That coverage would include services and procedures for any missing or abnormal body part necessary to achieve normal body function, including teeth.”

This was the first advocacy trip for both women, who work together at the Ohio State-based Ohio dental treatment center for the National Foundation for Ectodermal Dysplasia, one of just 23 in the country.

“I felt proud to be advocating for our patients,” Dr. Knobloch said. “It made me feel like I was doing something for the patients that we know and love, something that will hopefully provide them some financial relief down the road.”

ELSA was passed by the House of Representatives last year by a bipartisan majority. It was not voted on by the Senate before a new session was seated this year, so a new vote is needed. Still, Drs. Knobloch and Mercado are hopeful that the act will be signed into law.

“You owe it to the patients [to advocate for ELSA],” Dr. Mercado said. In Washington, she met a father and daughter who both suffer from ectodermal dysplasias. The condition often runs in families, she said.

“He’s paid a lot of money for his dentures and he has to keep paying because they’re broken,” she said. “But he’s there for his daughter, who is missing teeth. So, we keep trying [to get the act passed]. We may miss the boat now but we’re doing it for their daughter, their grandchildren, future generations.”

Patients cannot afford not to advocate for themselves, Dr. Mercado said. And clinicians have powerful stories to tell in support of their patients.

“There was an unexpected benefit for the advocacy work: a greater understanding of the legislative process.

“…As an advocate, you’re hoping to get their attention and make them understand the importance of what you’re doing. When these things come up to a vote, we want them to remember us.”

Lisa Knobloch, ’91 DDS, ’94 MS

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There was an unexpected benefit for the advocacy work: a greater understanding of the legislative process.
often young when they begin treatment and there is routine maintenance that needs to be performed throughout their lives. In addition, it is not unusual for the teeth to need repairs or to even be replaced regularly. While the dental treatment center at Ohio State can lower some costs, increased insurance coverage would make a difference in many lives.

“We sometimes get patients who choose dentures over implants because of the cost,” Dr. Knobloch said. “To live your whole life with dentures because of the cost? I would not consider that to be the standard of care that we want someone to have.”

ELSA has until January 2025 to be passed by this Congress. Drs. Mercado and Knobloch plan on going back to Washington if they’re asked.

“There are currently 6,000 bills in front of the House and 4,000 in front of the Senate,” Dr. Knobloch said. “We’re one of those bills. … So as an advocate, you’re hoping to get their attention and make them understand the importance of what you’re doing. When these things come up to a vote, we want them to remember us.”
AHMED ABDELKARIM, BDS, MSC, MSD, Joins RCDC Fellows

Dr. Ahmed Abdelkarim, an assistant professor-clinical in the Division of Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology (OMFR), was formally inducted into the Royal College of Dentists of Canada (RCDC) during the organization’s Annual General Meeting in Montreal in September. He is one of 42 OMFR fellows in the RCDC. Achieving Fellow status in the RCDC is a distinction that is given only to dental professionals who have demonstrated the highest level of competence and commitment to their specialty.

A member of the college’s faculty since November 2022, Dr. Abdelkarim earned his dental degree from Ain Shams University in Cairo, Egypt, and his MS in clinical research from the John A. Burns School of Medicine in Honolulu. Continuing his professional education, Dr. Abdelkarim earned an MS in oral and maxillofacial radiology from the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio.
College of Dentistry faculty published more than 120 publications in peer-reviewed journals from July 2022 through July 2023. Publications enable faculty to share their research and scholarly work, contributing to public knowledge and improved clinical outcomes.

**YI-CHU WU, DDS, MS, Receives ADA Foundation’s Whiston Leadership Award**

Dr. Yi-Chu Wu, an assistant professor-clinical in the Division of Periodontology, recently received the American Dental Association Foundation’s (ADAF) Dr. David Whiston Leadership Award. The award recognizes individuals “whose leadership and research excellence has made a substantial contribution to public oral health. Funds may...support research focused on an oral health issue or challenge within an underserved population or community.”

Dr. Wu joined the College of Dentistry in 2022. She earned her dental degree from Taipei Medical University in Taiwan and her master’s degree in periodontics from Columbia University in New York.

**CLIFFORD BEALL, PHD  
ANN GRIFFEN, DDS, ’91 MS  
EUGENE LEYS, PHD**

**College Faculty Receive 2023 Editor’s Choice Award**

Three faculty members collaborated on a scholarly publication that has won the 2023 Editors’ Choice Award from the *Journal of the American Dental Association Foundational Science* (JADA FS). Those faculty members are Dr. Clifford Beall, research associate professor in the Division of Biosciences; Dr. Eugene Leys, a professor in the Division of Biosciences; and Dr. Ann Griffen, chair of the Division of Biosciences.

Their award-winning publication, “Silver diamine fluoride alters microbial communities in subsurface dentin,” investigates whether or not silver diamine fluoride alters the composition of carious surface biofilm microbial communities. Originally published in 2022, the paper was selected for the JADA FS Editor’s Choice Award because it was ranked highest among the top three publications of the year.

JADA FS is the American Dental Association’s new open-access, online only, interdisciplinary journal that publishes original research articles and reviews on a broad range of topics in dental, oral and craniofacial health. Its aim is to highlight foundational science, as well as new and emerging scientific ideas, tools and techniques as they are applied to research questions in oral and craniofacial health.

**Faculty Publications**

To view a list of faculty publications, visit go.osu.edu/CodPubs.
Meet Our Newest Faculty

Constance Kuntupis, ’97 MA

Ms. Constance Kuntupis joined the college on August 7, 2023, as an assistant professor-clinical and director of the Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology Clinic. She earned a BA degree in secondary education and a BS degree in dental hygiene from West Liberty University in West Virginia, as well as an MA degree in workforce education and lifelong learning from The Ohio State University. Ms. Kuntupis previously served as a practicing dental hygienist for the City of Columbus Public Health Department. Prior to that, she was a clinical faculty member in the College of Dentistry’s Division of Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology.

Ms. Kuntupis is responsible for managing the pre-doctoral clinical curriculum in oral and maxillofacial radiology and managing clinical operations for the pre-doctoral training program.

Diana Smyres, ’91 DDS

Dr. Diana Smyres joined the Division of Restorative and Prosthetic Dentistry as an assistant professor-clinical on August 23, 2023. She earned her DDS degree at The Ohio State University before completing the college’s Advanced Education in General Dentistry (AEGD) certificate program that provides extensive training in general dentistry, with an emphasis on treatment planning, patient management and comprehensive care. Dr. Smyres previously served as a general dentist at a private practice in Hilliard, Ohio, where her responsibilities included the diagnosis, treatment, management and coordination of services related to patients’ oral healthcare needs.

As a member of faculty, Dr. Smyres is responsible for didactic, pre-clinical and clinical teaching responsibilities, as well as working to enhance curriculum development to ensure the highest quality of educational experiences for students.
Kelly Rustico, '15 DDS

Dr. Kelly Rustico joined the college on November 1, 2023. She received a DDS degree from The Ohio State University College of Dentistry, and she completed the General Practice Residency program at the University of Virginia Health System. Dr. Rustico previously served as a general dentist in private practice in San Diego, California, and in Arlington, Virginia. Returning to her alma mater, she joined the College of Dentistry faculty as an assistant professor in the Division of Restorative and Prosthetic Dentistry.

As a member of faculty, Dr. Rustico focuses on didactic, pre-clinical and clinical teaching responsibilities, as well as working to enhance curriculum development to ensure the highest quality of educational experiences for students.

Tammy Duangthip, DDS, DMD, PhD

Dr. Tammy Duangthip will join the college on January 2, 2024, as an associate professor in the Division of Pediatric Dentistry. Dr. Duangthip earned a DDS from Chulalongkorn University in Thailand, a DMD from the University of Bern in Switzerland, and a PhD in dental public health from the University of Hong Kong. She is coming from the University of Hong Kong Faculty of Dentistry where she has served as the undergraduate program director in cariology. She has published more than 50 scholarly articles in international refereed journals, including the Journal of Dental Research and the Journal of Dentistry. She has been an invited speaker at the General Session of the International Association for Dental Research (IADR), and she has served as the president-elect of the IADR’s Pediatric Oral Health Research Group. Other honors include Research Excellence Awards and a Clinical Research Award from the IADR’s South-East Asia Division, as well as Fellow membership in the Royal College of Dental Surgeons in Thailand and the International College of Dentists.

As a member of faculty, Dr. Duangthip will assume didactic teaching responsibilities, conduct research on issues related to oral health, and direct the college’s research program in community oral health and dental public health.

Hiba Qari, BDS, MS

Dr. Hiba Qari will join the college on January 2, 2024, as an associate professor-clinical in the Division of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology. She received her BDS degree from King Abdulaziz University School of Dentistry in Saudi Arabia. She continued her dental professional education by earning a master's degree in dentistry from Tufts University’s School of Dental Medicine and a certificate in oral and maxillofacial pathology from Texas A&M University’s School of Dentistry. She currently serves as an associate professor and director of the Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology and Biopsy Service in the Department of Diagnostic Sciences at West Virginia University’s School of Dentistry.

In her new role, Dr. Qari will focus on didactic, pre-clinical and clinical teaching responsibilities for the Division of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology, as well as contribute to the effort to continually enhance students’ educational experiences.
As the College of Dentistry’s web communications specialist, James Moulton works behind the scenes to create very visible and important tools for patients, alumni, students, employees and others. James led the redesign of the dentistry.osu.edu site in 2022, and he managed the launch of a new college intranet this past summer. He also leads accessibility efforts to ensure the college’s digital information and services are usable for people with disabilities.
Q & A

**What made you decide to pursue a career in web design?**

I explored a LOT of different career paths after graduating from college, but I’ve always been interested in technology. It wasn’t until my mid-30s that I decided to seek a more formal education for web development and design. I wanted to work in a field that’s growing and offers unique opportunities to combine my creativity and appreciation of technology. The pace of innovation can be overwhelming at times, but that keeps things interesting.

**What do you like best about your job?**

I enjoy having the opportunity to learn new things and, when feasible, implement new ideas into our projects. It’s also nice to have variety in the types of projects I’m involved in. There are very few days where I spend the entire day on one task.

**What do you like best about the College of Dentistry?**

The people. There’s a common stereotype that “web people” like to work in isolation, but I enjoy meeting new people and trying to find creative ways to solve problems.

**What do you like to do outside of work?**

I love to travel with my family and learn about other cultures. I particularly love to be on, in, or near an ocean – scuba diving, paddle boarding and exploring! If I can’t get to the ocean, then hiking in the mountains takes second place. One of my favorite hikes was in Lauterbrunnen, Switzerland. The chocolate there was also amazing!

Aside from travel, I spend my time running, playing guitar, drawing and cleaning up after our constantly shedding Australian Shepherd.

**Anything else you’d like to share?**

I’m not a fan of heights – particularly roller coasters – but I’ve been skydiving and would do that again before going on a roller coaster.
A
On September 24, students from the Ohio State Chapter of the Student American Dental Hygiene Association raised more than $1,900 during their annual 5K Walk-Run. Funds benefit Give Kids A Smile.

B
(From left) Mehrdad Safavian, ’80 DDS; Eser Tufekci, DDS, ’93 MS, ’98 PhD, MSHA; Executive Associate Dean Andrea Zandona, DDS, PhD; and Tracy Poole-Swerlein, ’95 DDS, at the college’s alumni reception during the American Dental Association annual meeting in Orlando, Florida, in October.

C
(From left) Division of Biosciences members Monica Stanwick, research assistant; Sarah Peters, PhD, assistant professor; and Christina Zachariadou, DDS, ’18 MS, graduate research associate, were among the College of Dentistry faculty, staff and residents who rode, volunteered and/or raised funds for Pelotonia 2023.

D
Pediatric alumni gathered for a reception at The Ohio Union on October 20 during the college’s Pediatric Alumni and Friends CE weekend.

E
First-year dental students and junior dental hygiene students had a busy itinerary during orientation in August. Their many activities included touring Postle Hall and completing instrument inventory in the pre-clinic lab.
In Memoriam

1950’s

Eleanor M. Wigton, ’50
C-Certificate
Auburn, ME
September 8, 2023

William E. Rhinehart, ’52 DDS
Steubenville, OH
July 29, 2023

Robert V. Clendenen, ’55 DDS
Circleville, OH
September 16, 2023

Robert L. McDonald, ’56 DDS
Brecksville, OH
August 14, 2023

Sidney L. Glick, ’58 DDS
Solon, OH
September 28, 2023

William J. Hunzicker, ’58 DDS,
’63 MS
Lancaster, OH
August 5, 2023

Lee F. Bernhard, ’59 DDS
The Villages, FL
June 16, 2023

1960’s

Grace C. Santilli, ’60
C-Certificate
Dublin, OH
July 20, 2023

Daniel F. Specht, ’61 DDS
Dublin, OH
September 7, 2023

Bonnie B. Gibbs, ’62
C-Certificate
Bettendorf, IA
July 24, 2023

Richard E. Huss, ’63 DDS
Bluffton, OH
August 2, 2023

Janet S. McCune, ’64
C-Certificate
Dublin, OH
July 13, 2023

Robert E. Wood, ’64 DDS
Columbus, OH
June 18, 2023

Patrick C. Ebert, ’65 DDS
San Marcos, CA
June 28, 2023

1970’s

Don P. Bowermaster, ’70 DDS
Granville, OH
July 16, 2023

Ronald L. Clowson, ’72 DDS
Westerville, OH
August 12, 2023

Harris Bowman, ’74 DDS
Columbus, OH
May 5, 2023

Philip A. Knall, ’74 DDS
Dublin, OH
August 15, 2023

John E. Mitakides, ’74 DDS
Dayton, OH
October 18, 2023

William T. Stano, ’74 DDS
Avon, OH
September 30, 2023
The College of Dentistry is sad to announce the passing of two members of our faculty.

**1980’s**

Daryl M. Stewart, ’84 DDS
Granville, OH
May 23, 2023

**1990’s**

William A. Lord, ’93 DDS
Springfield, OH
July 3, 2023

Dr. Harris Bowman passed away on May 5, 2023. A 1974 graduate of The Ohio State University College of Dentistry, he established a private practice before joining the college as faculty. He retired in 2015 as an assistant professor-clinical in the Division of Restorative and Prosthetic Dentistry. Originally from Orlando, Florida, Dr. Bowman served in the United States Air Force before attending Wilberforce University in Wilberforce, Ohio.

Dr. Ronald Clowson passed away on August 12, 2023. A Columbus, Ohio, native, he attended The Ohio State University as an undergraduate student before earning his dental degree from the College of Dentistry in 1972. After establishing a private practice, he joined the college as a faculty member in the Division of Restorative and Prosthetic Dentistry. He retired in 2015 as an assistant professor-clinical. He was active in organized dentistry, serving as past president of the Columbus Dental Society.
Dental Practice Opportunities
Network Job Board

An online resource to connect dental professionals searching for employment, practice purchase, practice partners or practice sale opportunities in Ohio and the U.S.

Scan the code or visit dentistry.osu.edu/dpon