NYU College of Dentistry Celebrates 150 Years in The City That Never Sleeps
“Manhattan is where America began.”

Russell Shorto, author of The Island at the Center of the World

Global Health Nexus is produced in part through the generous support of the late Leonard Block, Mrs. Adele Block, and Richard and Peggy Danziger.
“There is no dental school to which I would be happier to give my best constructive efforts, or for which I could make to the Carnegie Foundation a more sincere appeal for help.”

Dr. William J. Gies, author of the Gies Report, writing in support of the proposed merger of New York College of Dentistry with New York University and the founding (in 1925) of New York University College of Dentistry.
NYU College of Dentistry Celebrates 150 Years in the City That Never Sleeps

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This special issue of *Global Health Nexus* celebrates NYUCD’s achievements across its 150-year history; its special relationship to New York City, which has energized our institution since its inception; and our approach to the future.

Founded by New York State Charter on March 31, 1865, as the New York College of Dentistry, today’s NYUCD began with 31 students in rented rooms on lower Fifth Avenue. The early years, marked by multiple rental locations, were also marked by pioneering initiatives, including the admission in 1871 of a female dental student.

A turning point occurred in 1925, when the New York College of Dentistry merged with New York University to become the NYU College of Dentistry, setting the stage for the promotion of research and postdoctoral education.

Another important milestone occurred in 2005, when the NYU Division of Nursing became a new College of Nursing within the College of Dentistry. This unprecedented alliance has catalyzed new teaching, research, and practice models based on interdisciplinary health research and education. It is a remarkable success story, and I can report that both professions have benefitted: Nursing faculty and students now recognize the pivotal role of oral health in systemic health and dental students see the benefit of a collaborative, interprofessional healthcare delivery model. Today, the College of Nursing is poised to become an independent College of Nursing within NYU, joining the dental school as an equal partner within a new NYU Faculty of Health. (See related story on p. 98.)
The early years... marked by multiple rental locations, were also marked by pioneering initiatives, including the admission in 1871 of a female dental student.

TODAY’S NYUCD: BY THE NUMBERS

NYUCD today has more than 1,900 students in its various pre-, postdoctoral, master’s, and certificate programs. Students come from all over the United States and 55 countries. Nearly 50 percent of all currently enrolled students are women and minorities. NYUCD offers specialty training in endodontics, oral and maxillofacial surgery, orthodontics, pediatric dentistry, periodontics, and prosthodontics, as well as in implant dentistry. NYUCD is also home to the only dental school-affiliated dental hygiene program in New York State.

NYUCD has an entering class for 2015–16 of approximately 399 students. Matriculants are culled from an applicant pool of approximately 5,000. The overall grade point average (GPA) is 3.5; science GPA is 3.6; and Dental Admission Test (DAT) scores are 21.04, significantly above the national average of 17 to 18 for DAT scores. An important indicator of student success is the 99.6 percent first-time pass rate scored by the Class of 2016 on the National Dental Board Examinations, which continues a multiyear trend. This is significantly above the national mean, which is important inasmuch as NYUCD represents the largest single sample of those taking the examination. One might expect a regression to the national mean, but that is not the case.

NYUCD consistently ranks within the top 10 U.S. dental schools in funding from the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR), and expectations are high for progressive improvement next year as the funding for our most recent faculty recruits begins to take effect. Increasingly, as the research program expands, some research funding comes from other NIH institutes and from outside the NIH as well.

The College’s distinguished faculty includes more than 900 full- and part-time clinicians and researchers, many of whom have made pioneering contributions in the areas of caries research across the age spectrum; salivary diagnostics; cancer, especially oral cancer; bone health, especially osteoporosis research; behavioral research; HIV research; pain control; implant dentistry; the development of new dental materials; the use of fluoride and dental sealants to prevent caries; bonding techniques to restore the appearance of damaged teeth; the...
A turning point occurred in 1925, when the New York College of Dentistry merged with New York University to become the NYU College of Dentistry, setting the stage for the promotion of research and postdoctoral education.

correction of facial deformities; and orthodontic services for adults.

In addition to educating health professionals, NYUCD endeavors through its faculty, students, and alumni to improve the health of the highly diverse populations in New York City and around the world. NYUCD provides over 300,000 visits annually to the most multiethnic, multicultural patient population in the nation. The College conducts a mobile dental care program, Smiling Faces, Going Places, which travels to dentally underserved areas throughout New York City to provide critically needed dental services; sponsors free oral cancer and oral health screenings for thousands of New Yorkers annually; and has established a global health education, research, and service network. This global outreach model, the Henry Schein Cares Global Student Outreach Program, delivers essential care to populations in need and provides more than 200 student, faculty, and staff participants annually with a unique service-learning experience, opportunities to conduct critically needed research, and an increased awareness of access-to-care issues, while fostering a passion for volunteerism and social responsibility.

DIFFERENTIATION: NYUCD’S STRATEGY FOR TODAY AND TOMORROW

During my time as dean, differentiation has been a key driver of NYUCD’s strategic direction. I consider it important to distinguish NYUCD from other schools that do what we do; do it basically in the same way; and do it at a far lower tuition. Roughly 60 percent of our revenue comes from tuition; therefore, we have to offer more value to students in ways they care about to justify the premium they pay. Our challenge is to fulfill their initial expectations while at the same time introducing them to a more sophisticated understanding of the opportunities afforded by a first-rate education in the health sciences.

We aim for differentiation not only outside NYU but
also within. The reality is that the world’s great universities seldom have dental schools. There are notable exceptions, such as Harvard, Columbia, the University of Pennsylvania, the University of Michigan, and the University of California, but all of these are 19th-century historical anomalies—as is NYU’s dental school. Leading universities are not the ones opening new dental schools today and none depend on their dental schools for their reputations. Therefore, within NYU we have to contribute added value to the university as a whole.

Whether in the internal or the external arena, the basic means of differentiating ourselves is the same: attracting exceptional faculty, students, and staff with strongly collaborative and collegial attitudes toward their work and relationships.

AN ASPIRATIONAL CURRICULUM

An important differentiating feature at NYUCD is a distinctive educational philosophy. It has three parts:

(1) Clinical excellence: Dentistry and dental hygiene are technical disciplines that demand fine motor skills and an aptitude for three-dimensional visualization. Using laboratory and simulation exercises, most students become quite adept from the technical perspective, with all passing the licensing examinations for the jurisdictions in which they choose to practice or teach.

(2) Cultivating an identity as a man or woman of science: We use Dr. Anthony Iacopino’s definition of a man or woman of science as a sophisticated consumer of research—someone who knows that a scientific literature exists; knows where to find it; can read it and find it intelligible; can critique it; and can transfer the knowledge gained to practical application in the clinical care of patients.

(3) Something More: This refers to that empathic element we all want in our own healthcare providers. Absent this essential feature, clinical skills and scientific acumen produce Mr. Spock. Alas, this Something More is easier to describe than to define; thus, we aim to produce practitioners with a high level of emotional intelligence as described by Dr. Daniel Goleman—people who are socially poised, outgoing

“An important indicator of student success is the 99.6 percent first-time pass rate scored by the Class of 2016 on the National Dental Board Examinations, which continues a multiyear trend.”
and cheerful, not prone to fearfulness or worried rumination, with a capacity for commitment to people and causes, for taking responsibility, for having an ethical outlook, for being sympathetic and caring in their relationships; comfortable with themselves, with others, and with the social universe in which they live.

The relationship between faculty and students in a dental school is an intimate one—making this kind of personal growth agenda a realistic aspiration.

**INTERDISCIPLINARITY**

Another feature that differentiates NYUCD is a strong collaborative, interdisciplinary, and entrepreneurial mindset. This is critical to NYUCD’s ability to bring added value to the university at a whole. An enterprise-wide collaborative mentality enhances student learning, improves patient care, and promotes the kinds of research that can generate new diagnostic methods, treatments, and cures. It’s especially gratifying when other units within the university discover how much NYUCD can contribute to their programs in entirely unexpected ways. This particular outlook is unusual in a dental school and has helped us attract some exceptional faculty members. Among them are:

- Dr. Timothy Bromage, an anthropologist, who was named the 2010 recipient of the Max Planck Prize. His work on the microanatomic structure of ancestral human teeth and bones has established the modern fields of human evolution growth, development, and life history. In Malawi, Dr. Bromage unearthed a 2.4-million-year-old jaw—the oldest known remains of the genus, *Homo*.
- Dr. Donna Albertson, an expert in both breast and oral squamous cell carcinoma. She was awarded the

“During my time as dean, differentiation has been a key driver of NYUCD’s strategic direction. I consider it important to distinguish NYUCD from other schools that do what we do; do it basically in the same way; and do it at a far lower tuition.”

| 1981 | MS Program in Dental Materials Science established. |
| 1984 | NYUCD and WABC-TV partner on first free annual dental screenings for New Yorkers. |
| 1986 | Advanced Placement DDS Program established. |
| 1987 | David B. Kriser Dental Center dedicated. |
American Academy for the Advancement of Science’s 2013 Newcomb Cleveland Prize for her coauthorship of “The Connectome of a Decision-Making Neural Network,” which appeared in the journal Science.

- Dr. John McDevitt, a bioengineer and a pioneer in the development of programmable bio-nano-chip technologies to diagnose cardiac disease through salivary diagnostics, was recruited from Rice University in January 2015. This was a joint recruitment by NYUCD and the School of Engineering. Dr. McDevitt chairs NYUCD’s Department of Biomaterials. His department occupies one floor of a three-floor research laboratory ensemble along with NYU’s emerging bioengineering program in our newly constructed facility at 433 First Avenue. (See related story on p. 88.)
- Dr. Bernadette Boden-Albala, whose research focuses on the link between oral disease and stroke, was recruited jointly by NYUCD and the former NYU Global Institute of Public Health, now the College of Global Public Health. Her work has been supported by more than $27M in NIH funding over the past eight years.
- Dr. Richard Niederman, an expert in evidence-based medicine and medical informatics, was recruited last year from Boston’s Forsyth Institute. He is professor and chair of NYUCD’s Department of Epidemiology and Health Promotion, which shares a floor with the College of Nursing in our new building at 433 First Avenue.
- Dr. Brian Schmidt is a head and neck surgeon who holds DDS, MD, and PhD degrees; is a national leader in oral cancer pain research and treatment; and heads NYUCD’s unique translational research facility, the Bluestone Center for Clinical Research.
CREATING AN ENVIRONMENT OF SHARED GOVERNANCE

Many of the changes implemented over the past few years can be viewed as progressive but atypical for a dental school. They would be doomed without a critical mass of fully supportive faculty, students, and staff. That kind of buy-in requires mutual trust. That said, NYUCD has not had a strong tradition of shared governance. In the past, decisions were expected to be made at the top without much comment from the school’s varied constituencies.

With the strong support of my immediate superior, Dr. Robert Berne, NYU’s executive vice president for health, we began in 2013 to hold an annual Plenary Council, an all-volunteer assembly of more than 100 self-selected faculty, staff, and students. The Plenary Council fosters a leadership style that takes a more collegial approach to decision making—one that helps prepare junior faculty to take on senior-level responsibility through a daylong facilitated conversation.

Both the executive vice president for health and the president of NYU have participated in these plenary exercises. Significantly, as participants spontaneously disseminate both the findings and the spirit of the sessions, the impact of the Plenary Council extends beyond the people who are physically present.

A NEW BUILDING TO ACCOMMODATE OUR VISION FOR THE FUTURE

On January 1, 2015, a new, collaborative, 13-floor, 170,000-square-foot, interprofessional building opened at 433 First Avenue, across the street from NYUCD’s main campus. The new building provides an additional 55,000 square feet for the College of Dentistry, which has been able to add significant teaching and administrative space.

The new building also provides a home for the NYU College of Nursing and research space for the new NYU Bioengineering Institute, thereby enabling a truly interdisciplinary partnership with a focus on synergistic academic and research opportunities.

“‘Something More’ refers to that empathic element we all want in our own healthcare providers. Absent this essential feature, clinical skills and scientific acumen produce Mr. Spock.”

NIDCR awards NYUCD a $4.6 million grant to establish a Minority Oral Health Research Center.

1991
NYU Kriser Dental Center designated an Article 28 Diagnostic and Treatment Center.

1998
NYUCD catalyzes the formation of the first Oral Cancer Consortium in the U.S.

1995
Programs for International Dentists established.
NEW ACADEMIC INITIATIVES ON THE HORIZON

We look forward to introducing a joint DDS-MBA program and a joint DDS-Public Health Certificate Program in fall 2016, and, very importantly, to additional collaborations with the new NYU Bioengineering Institute. These are all off to an excellent start.

I hope that you enjoy this special issue of Global Health Nexus, whose many highlights include “A Brief Overview of the 150-Year History of New York University College of Dentistry,” by Associate Dean for Academic Affairs Dr. Andrew I. Spielman; an article titled “New York: The City That Never Sleeps,” by Harvard economist Edward Glaeser, which discusses New York City’s distinctiveness, its pivotal role in both attracting and incubating intellectual, creative, and entrepreneurial talent, and its ability to foster collaboration—the same values that distinguish NYUCD; and an article on the 25th anniversary of NYUCD’s Dental Hygiene Program, the only dental hygiene program in New York State to be housed in a dental school. Within these pages you will also find an array of stories that highlight discoveries from our researchers and innovations and achievements by our faculty, students, and staff. This is an exciting chapter in our history, and one which presages a future of even greater distinction.

“It’s especially gratifying when other units within the university discover how much NYUCD can contribute to their programs in entirely unexpected ways.”
A Brief Overview of the 150-Year History of New York University College of Dentistry

THE FOUNDING OF THE NYU COLLEGE OF DENTISTRY

As we celebrate NYUCD’s sesquicentennial, marking the establishment on March 31, 1865, of the New York College of Dentistry—today’s NYU College of Dentistry—it is worth noting that the 175-year history of formal dental education in the U.S. is replete with dental schools that opened, merged, but mostly closed. Historically, a total of 183 dental schools have opened in the U.S. over the past 175 years, and 55 percent of these schools no longer exist, including 46 schools that lasted less than 10 years.

To date, only two other dental schools have celebrated a sesquicentennial: the University of Maryland School of Dentistry, founded in 1840 in Baltimore as the Baltimore Dental College, and Temple University School of Dentistry, founded in 1863 in Philadelphia as the Philadelphia Dental College. In 1865, when New York College of Dentistry was poised to open, there were six other dental schools in the U.S., including the schools at the Baltimore Dental College and the Philadelphia Dental College. The other four schools—in Cincinnati, Syracuse, New York, New Orleans, and a second school in Philadelphia—no longer exist.

By Andrew I. Spielman, DMD, PhD

Associate Dean for Academic Affairs; Professor of Basic Science and Craniofacial Biology NYU College of Dentistry

2000
NYUCD introduces a completely digital curriculum.

2001
NIDCR awards NYUCD an $8.3 million grant to establish the NYU Oral Cancer Research for Adolescent and Adult Health Promotion (RAAHP) Center.

2000
NYUCD establishes a Global Outreach Program.

2001
Certificate and MS Programs in Clinical Research established.
The New York College of Dentistry held its first session in 1866. The academic year, consisting of didactic and clinical training, lasted approximately five months—from early October through early March. Through spring and part of the summer, another three months were dedicated to clinical training in the “Infirmary.” Each student was assigned a clinical preceptor. There was no high school or other prerequisite and no specific age requirement for application. It was not until 1900 that the New York State Board of Regents mandated that a student must be at least 21 years of age to be eligible to practice dentistry in New York. Prior to that time, students who applied to dental school were as young as 16. Some required their parents to vouch for them so that they could apply. Anyone with eight years prior experience in the practice of dentistry could be admitted to an Advanced Standing Program, which was one session in duration. In fact, the practice of dentistry with or without formal education or apprenticeship was widespread. The 1860 U.S. census lists 5,606 dentists. Only about 10 percent of those had graduated from a dental school.

At the outset there were 10 elected professors and 18 clinical instructors (part-time faculty) in the following disciplines: general and dental anatomy, dental histology, physiology, chemistry, metallurgy, dental pathology and therapeutics, oral surgery, operative dentistry, and dental art and mechanisms.

During the first session, professors were elected, rather than appointed. They all had formal dental and/or medical training. Many of them were quite famous. For example, Eleazar Parmly, DDS, MD, president of the Board of Directors of NYCD from 1866–69, was one of the

“A total of 31 students were enrolled in the first session. Attrition was 35 percent in the first decades, compared to two percent today, and during the first 10 years, tuition was $150 per year, a large sum for the day.”

2002
The Bluestone Center for Clinical Research opens.

2002
NIDCR awards NYUCD a $5.8 million grant to develop a design prototype that will extend the life of ceramic crowns.

2002
The Rosenthal Institute for Aesthetic Dentistry opens.
The merger [of New York College of Dentistry with NYU] marked a new beginning for what became New York University College of Dentistry, one characterized by higher standards for admission, a more rigorous curriculum, and an instantly burnished reputation.

founding members, a past president of the American Society of Dental Surgeons, and a past provost of the Baltimore Dental College (1851–52). He was close friends with President Lincoln, who entertained him at the White House; was received by Napoleon III and Pope Pius IX; and was briefly engaged to Mary Astor (of the famed Astor family).

Other early professors were leaders in organized dentistry. Dr. William Henry Atkinson, one of the founders of NYCD, was the first president of the American Dental Association (1859–61), and the only one to serve two terms. All professors held either DDS, MD, or dual DDS, MD degrees. The first elected dean was Dr. Norman W. Kingsley (1865–69), considered the father of orthodontics.

A total of 31 students were enrolled in the first session. Attrition was 35 percent in the first decades, compared to two percent today, and during the first 10 years, tuition was $150 per year, a large sum for the day.

On April 1, 1867, the first nine graduates of the New York College of Dentistry received their DDS degrees.

2004
NYUCD introduces plastination into the dental anatomy curriculum, becoming the first U.S. dental school to adopt this technology.

2004
NYUCD introduces implant education at the predoctoral level, becoming the first U.S. dental school to do so.

2004
Colgate-Palmolive joins NYUCD and WABC-TV in cosponsoring annual free oral health screenings for the public.
NYU College of Dentistry’s 150 years of history were not without challenges, as well as triumphs. In 1869, the College suspended its operations for six months to settle a lawsuit that questioned the standards of education provided and the criteria for awarding degrees. After the lawsuit was settled successfully, the College resumed operations.

Then, in the early years of the 20th century, as a result of the 1910 Flexner report—which gave formal voice to a rising backlash against the proliferation of proprietary medical and dental schools—and a subsequent New York State mandate that required dental schools to be part of a university—NYCD tried unsuccessfully to join several major universities. Between 1909 and 1925, the College approached Cornell, Columbia, and NYU (twice) to foster a merger. The last attempt, in 1925, was successful, due in large part to the efforts and influence of Dr. William J. Gies, a Columbia University biochemist with a particular interest in dental education and dental research and its clinical applications. In 1926, Dr. Gies published *Dental Education in the United States and Canada*, known as the Gies Report, which was sponsored by the Carnegie Foundation. He worked closely with NYU Chancellor Elmer Ellsworth Brown to realize NYCD’s goal—affiliation with a major university—which was achieved on June 30, 1925, when the New York College of Dentistry merged with New York University to become the NYU College of Dentistry.

The merger created higher standards for admission, a more rigorous curriculum, and an instantly burnished reputation. Even before joining NYU, the College had been a trailblazer in modernizing education and increasing requirements for admission. It was, for example, the first dental school to mandate a high school diploma for admission and one of the first to increase its curriculum from two to three years. Nevertheless, the merger with NYU was a necessary rebirth for the College.

**LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION**

For its first session, the College rented two rooms on the first floor of a building located at 161 Fifth Avenue, at 22nd Street. All subsequent locations have been in the same neighborhood. As the College expanded and more space was needed, NYUCD moved in 1868 into another

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**2005**

NYUCD forms an alliance with the NYU Nursing Program to create a College of Nursing within the College of Dentistry.

**2005**

NIDCR awards $26.7 million grant to NYUCD to establish the NYU PEARL Practice-Based Research Network.
rental space, this time at 107 West 23rd Street, on the northwest corner of Sixth Avenue.

After less than a year, there was another new rental location—at the corner of 21st Street and Broadway. In 1873, another rental space was occupied—in a building at the northwest corner of 23rd Street and Second Avenue. That building has since been demolished. After 18 years at that location, NYUCD moved in 1891 to 23rd Street, between Second and Third Avenues (the site of today’s School of Visual Arts), which marked its first real estate purchase.

In 1957, the College moved to a building that it still occupies, at 421 First Avenue, which in 1965 was named for its principal donor, K. B. Weissman. Also in 1957, the College bought a second building, known as the Basic Science Building, located at First Avenue between 25th and 26th Streets. In 1978, the College added the Arnold and Marie Schwartz Hall of Dental Sciences, located at 345 E. 24th Street at First Avenue, which was the first building constructed at NYU specifically as a dental school. The Basic Science Building closed in 1988 and was demolished in 2011. A new, interprofessional building opened on that site in January 2015. The new building provides additional space for NYUCD, plus a home for the NYU College of Nursing and space for a new NYU Bioengineering Institute. (See related story on p. 88.)

FROM THE BEGINNING, A DIVERSE STUDENT BODY

A total of 22,591 dentists have graduated from NYUCD since its inception, amounting to 8 percent of all U.S. dentists annually. Throughout that period, NYUCD has been a magnet for immigrants, initially from Europe—where political upheavals led to the arrival of European students—but soon from other countries as well. During the College’s first 30 years, students consisted primarily of German, British, Canadian, Caribbean, and Russian immigrants. By the time NYCD became NYUCD, its composition was primarily Anglo-Saxon, Italian, and East European Jews, reflecting immigration patterns. The photo from 1890 shows an all-male student body, though nearly two decades earlier, a Russian-Lithuanian woman, Helen Vongl de Swiderska, graduated from NYCD, becoming the third women in the U.S. to earn a dental degree.

Today, NYUCD attracts students from 55 countries; more than 40 different languages are spoken; and the student body consists of approximately 50 percent male and 50 percent female students.

In the early 1970s, as social mores and expectations changed, women started to enroll in large numbers at NYUCD. Also in the 1970s, social clashes—many resulting from conflicting positions on the Vietnam War—placed the leadership of the College and its students in opposite camps, frequently resulting in demonstrations.
LEADERSHIP OF THE COLLEGE

The College has had 14 permanent and four interim or acting deans. The average tenure for a dean has been 10 years. The longest serving dean was Frank Abbott (1869 to 1897). When, in 1896, he attempted to secure the deanship for his son, the faculty rebelled, forcing his retirement and electing as dean Faneuil D. Weisse, an MD and oral surgeon. Dr. Weisse was a founder of the College, a faculty member beginning in 1865, and its dean from 1897 to 1912. The shortest serving dean, for one year, was Holmes C. Jackson, who died in office in 1927.

CURRICULUM

Since its founding, the College has more than doubled the length of its curriculum. The most significant changes occurred during the years preceding and following publication of the Gies Report, when the curriculum

2007
NIDCR awards NYUCD a $6.2 million grant for HIV Research.

2007
NYUCD introduces dual degree (DDS/MPH) program combining dentistry and public health.

2007
Edward Fox donates $5 million to NYUCD to establish the Herman Robert Fox Deanship.
moved from 22.5 months over three years to 40 months over four years.

At the same time, college requirements increased from none to two years by the time of the merger with NYU in 1925, and, from that year onward, to a prerequisite of a four-year college degree. Courses in chemistry and histology were introduced in 1891. Preclinical laboratory training for operative dentistry and oral prosthetics was introduced in 1894. Attendance was mandatory for all lectures and clinics. Students were dismissed for non-attendance, theft, cheating, and gambling. A famous dismissal occurred in 1891, when, after two years of enrollment, Randolph Parker (a.k.a. “Painless” Parker), a flamboyant street dentist described by the American Dental Association as “a menace to the dignity of the profession,” was dismissed from NYCD for non-attendance.

**ALUMNI**

It would be impossible in this brief overview to list all the NYU dental graduates who have achieved fame and prominence. Since its founding in 1865, NYUCD has produced leaders in clinical patient care, research, education, public service, and organized dentistry. NYU dental graduates have pioneered treatment advances in implant dentistry and aesthetic dentistry that have transformed patient care. From the ranks of our alumni have come the authors of leading dental textbooks; Dr. Robert Led-ley, the inventor of the whole-body ACTA (CAT) scanner; presidents of all of the major dental organizations; Dr. Martha Somerman, the current director of the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR); Dr. Eduardo Rodriguez, the plastic surgeon who, in 2012, led an unprecedented total facial reconstruction of a patient who had lost much of his face during a shotgun accident; and the deans of major U.S. dental schools.

This tradition continues unabated. Thanks to revolutionary advances in information technology, research collaboration, and global public health, the current generation of NYU dental alumni is achieving in unprecedented ways.

**NYUCD TODAY**

Today’s NYUCD has never been more prosperous or more highly regarded among its alumni, the public, peer institutions, and national and international organizations. NYUCD is more selective in its admission policies than ever before; its impact on dental education, patient care, and research has never been greater; and our students’ performance on national and regional standardized exams is at an all-time high. We celebrate NYUCD’s 150th anniversary with a sense of accomplishment and optimism about the future.
In the late 1980s, following the cessation of the dental hygiene program at Fairleigh Dickinson University (FDU) College of Dental Medicine, the program’s director, Dr. Cheryl M. Westphal Theile, approached former Dean Edward G. Kaufman with the idea of establishing a dental hygiene program at NYUCD. Dean Kaufman supported the idea, and, in 1990, an Associate in Applied Science (AAS) degree program in dental hygiene was established with Dr. Westphal Theile as director. With this act, NYUCD became the only dental school in New York State to offer a dental hygiene program. Dr. Westphal Theile currently serves as assistant dean for allied health programs and clinical professor of dental hygiene.

In its first year, the program enrolled two classes, consisting of a total of 40 students—20 in the day session and 20 in the evening session. Initially under the direction of a core group of three full-time faculty members, Dr. Westphal Theile, Ms. Eva Lupovici, now a part-time clinical professor of dental hygiene, and the late Ms. Ann Goodwin, the program moved forward quickly. “We managed all of the lectures and clinics, and willingly devoted as many as 20 hours a day to ensure that we would develop the strongest possible program,” says Professor Lupovici.

NYU’s Dental Hygiene Program today consists of a diverse, 185-member student body and offers a variety of flexible curriculum options for students. These include a 17-month “fast track” AAS program, introduced in January 2015; both a two-year and a three-year AAS program; a four-year Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene program; and a degree completion Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene program.

Cheryl M. Westphal Theile, RDH, EdD
Assistant Dean, Allied Health Programs;
Clinical Professor of Dental Hygiene
NYU College of Dentistry

2010
NYUCD/Henry Schein Cares
Global Student Outreach Program established.

2010
Consortium for Translational Orthodontic Research (CTOR) established.

2010
Dr. Timothy Bromage, professor of basic science and craniofacial biology, receives the Max Planck Research Award.
program. Because it is an integral part of NYUCD, the dental hygiene program enables students to work collaboratively with second-, third-, and fourth-year DDS students and to rotate among the specialties.

“From the student perspective, the academic perspective, and the perspective of delivery of care, the dental hygiene program is a major contributor to NYUCD,” says Dr. Westphal Theile.

Today, the dental hygiene faculty consists of approximately 70 full-time, part-time, clinical, and adjunct faculty members, 50 percent of whom graduated from the program. “It’s all about a love of education and a commitment to a profession,” says Dr. Westphal Theile. “The faculty and administrators are committed to the students and to the university and especially to the profession of dental hygiene as a key component of the healthcare team.”

This commitment is exemplified by Professor Lorilei D. Kirby, a 1994 graduate of the Dental Hygiene Program, who also earned a BS in dental hygiene from NYUCD. “I love the college, I love being here, and this is what I want to continue to be a part of,” says Professor Kirby, a clinical assistant professor of dental hygiene. “Joining the Dental Hygiene Program really opened up a lot of opportunities for me that I would not otherwise have had. I’m so happy to have been, and still be, a part of it.”

While the fundamnetals of the NYUCD Dental Hygiene Program—its emphasis on academic excellence, health promotion, disease prevention and research, community service, and comprehensive patient care—have remained constant, faculty are continually adapting the program’s curriculum to meet the ever-evolving role of dental hygienists in today’s world.
According to a report from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 49 million people currently live in areas of the U.S. with limited access to dentists. That number has nearly tripled over the past 25 years, leading to curriculum change to advance the scope and practice of dental hygiene in order to help meet this need.

“The curriculum changes because you’re working with people from all walks of life—from pediatrics to elder care—in a lot of different settings. We’ve had to add more information about cultural competence, the humanities, and social justice, and the scope of our practice has had to expand so that students have the skill sets to perform local anesthesia, digital radiography testing, and more,” explains Dr. Westphal Theile.

Today, 37 states have policies that allow dental hygienists to practice in community-based settings and provide preventive oral health services without the presence or direct supervision of a dentist. This number has grown from just five states in 1995. “With 185,000 dental hygienists practicing today, and the U.S. Board of Labor and Statistics projecting a 36 percent growth in the profession by 2018,” says Dr. Westphal Theile, “this is the best time ever to become a licensed dental hygienist. In fact, for the past several years, U.S. News and World Report has ranked dental hygiene in the top 10 on their list of ‘Best Jobs.”

The growing number of master’s degree programs in dental hygiene reflects the importance of advanced study to keep pace with the expanding scope and function of the profession. To date, dental schools in 16 states offer master’s degree programs in dental hygiene, and the establishment of an MS degree program in dental hygiene at NYUCD is a goal for Dean Westphal Theile, together with more technology in the classroom and online courses for those who cannot attend traditional lectures.

“I see us continuing to graduate high-level hygienists who will be the future of the profession,” says Dean Westphal Theile. “The students come in filled with anticipation and, before we know it, they’re graduating, sad to be leaving their second home, but thrilled to be going out into clinical practice, public health careers, research, or healthcare management. Our alumni will always be a part of us; they serve as living proof of the excellence of NYU’s Dental Hygiene Program.”
At its heart, New York City is about people come to find some brighter way in the city. It is the city as pure vitality—
In my book, *Triumph of the City*, I argue that America is fundamentally an urban nation. More than two-thirds of us live on the 3 percent of land that contains our cities. Yet cities get a bad rap: They’re dirty, poor, unhealthy, crime-ridden, expensive, environmentally unfriendly… Or are they?

My premise is that cities—and New York City, in particular—are the healthiest, greenest, and culturally and economically richest places to live. New Yorkers, for instance, live longer than other Americans; heart disease and cancer rates are lower in Gotham than in the nation as a whole. City dwellers use, on average, 40 percent less energy than suburbanites. And more than half of America’s income is earned in 22 metropolitan areas.

But it is New York City, where I was born and grew up, that will always be the model city for me. This is not mere sentimentality. New York’s vast scale and enormous diversity make it a global model of urbanity and vitality.

**WHAT MAKES A GREAT CITY**

There are essentially two successful models of great cities—imperial cities and trading cities. (There is also a third model of the purely industrial city, but that model has failed because cities are bad places to locate basic manufacturing in the 21st century.)

Imperial cities—Moscow, Beijing, classical Rome—grew without trade or commerce or tolerance. This is also true of Washington, DC, which is anchored by the federal government’s ability to tax the rest of the country to support its cities.

But for the non-imperial cities, success means making markets. Success means nimble traders, whether in beans or bonds, finding opportunities to buy low and sell high. New York grew great because it was America’s central harbor during the 19th century. The city’s entrepreneurial culture—a legacy of the Dutch—helped make the harbor thrive by encouraging anyone who

hope and freedom. It is a place where of living—even if they don’t plan to stay the city that never sleeps.
wanted to be part of this bustling urban economy.

Religious tolerance—again a legacy of the Dutch—has been helpful, but it can also be a product of a free-trading culture. The Dutch West India Company famously overruled Peter Stuyvesant’s terrible attempt to push Jews out of Manhattan during the 1650s. They didn’t want to sacrifice financial success for religious purity.

The reason I say that entrepreneurship is central for economic success is that there are plenty of less-than-tolerant cities that have succeeded as centers of entrepreneurship, including Boston in the 17th century and Paris after Louis XIV revoked the Edict of Nantes. That being said, more tolerance is good for a city’s economic vitality, and France lost a great deal when the Huguenots left. Also, it goes without saying that tolerance would be a good thing even if it wasn’t also good economic policy.

NEW YORK CITY: THE WORLD’S PORT OF ENTRY

New York City has long been the world’s port of entry for immigrants, for artists, for ideas, for foreign goods. It is the major conduit across continents and civilizations. In a more globalized world, this role has become even more important. One of New York’s great advantages is that it remains America’s most globalized city, and I think that means that it will continue to play an outsized role in attracting foreigners and global businesses.

At its heart, New York City is about hope and freedom. It is a place where people come to find some brighter way of living—even if they don’t plan to stay in the city. New York is about freedom for at least three reasons. First, the city’s anonymity causes traditional social strictures to break down. Second, the city’s enormous size makes it possible to find almost any kind of activity or engagement. Third, the city as port of entry to the U.S. still symbolizes the freedom that America has offered for centuries. It is the city as pure vitality—the city that never sleeps.

New York City is also about density—the closeness of humanity. New York produced density early—at the start of the 20th century. It soared up, when European cities were still quite short. Chicago was the other great skyscraper city, but Chicago tended to be less global than New York.

Density is valuable because ideas spread quickly when distances are short. This fast flow of ideas helps explain why cities have been centers of collaborative creativity since the Athens of Socrates and Plato. Often the arts are particularly aided by the fast flow of urban ideas; and some of the obvious examples of New York’s intellectual eminence appear in the arts. Three examples are the literary excitement dominating the city in the 1920s and 1930s (think of the Algonquin Round Table crowd), the rise of Abstract Expressionism after World War II, and the growth of rap music in the 1970s and 1980s.

New York is also a place where young people come to become brilliant. Again, the arts make this clear. Think of writers, like those of the Beat Generation, coming to the city during and after World War II. But this is also true in every other idea-intensive industry. For example, Lewis Ranieri, the father of mortgage securitization, got his start in the Salomon Brothers mail room. We just learn by entering into a maelstrom of activity.
CITIES AND UNIVERSITIES: PERFECT COMPLEMENTS

The central theme of *Triumph of the City* is that cities magnify humanity’s strengths. So do universities. Successful cities work by enabling people to get smart by being around other smart people. Successful universities do exactly the same thing: They provide individuals with basic skills that are then leveraged in the urban economy. By giving people core skills, they enable those people to learn and teach more once they are out of school. The data make this very clear. Enrico Moretti’s work, in particular, has shown that cities with colleges have done much better than cities without educational institutions. This is true in the U.S. and elsewhere. Engineering colleges, for example, do an excellent job of predicting urban growth in India. Moreover, just as the best economic development strategy for cities may be to attract smart people and get out of their way, so too is this an effective strategy for universities. Certainly, this was my strategy when I directed a research center at Harvard: Get good people and don’t think that you know what they should do. With students, of course, there is more need for direction. Notably, in order to implement this strategy, both successful cities and successful universities need to invest in the infrastructure that enables smart people to collaborate and produce.

NYU College of Dentistry is a great dental school that is part of a great university, and it exhibits the characteristics that apply to the greatest of all cities, New York; namely, vitality, entrepreneurial spirit, and global character. I feel very fortunate to have been able to watch New York City evolve over my lifetime. I am confident that both New York City and NYU College of Dentistry will continue on their spectacular journeys and I can’t wait to see what happens next.

“NYU College of Dentistry is a great dental school that is part of a great university, and it exhibits the characteristics that apply to the greatest of all cities, New York; namely, vitality, entrepreneurial spirit, and global character.”
NYUCD in the News
A SAMPLING OF RECENT MEDIA COVERAGE

CBS-TV interviewed Dr. Serena Kassam, clinical assistant professor of pediatric dentistry and director of the predoctoral program in pediatric dentistry, for a story on the dangers to children’s dental health from overconsumption of fruit juice.

The New York State Dental Journal reported the awarding of the Dr. William J. Gies Award for Outstanding Achievement by a Dental Educator to Dr. Stuart M. Hirsch, vice dean for international initiatives, development, and student affairs.

Drmaxgomez.com interviewed Dr. Mark Wolff, professor and chair of the Department of Cariology and Comprehensive care and associate dean for predoctoral clinical education, for a story on cavity remineralization and no-drill cavity treatments.

Health.com quoted Dr. Maureen McAndrew, clinical professor of cariology and comprehensive care and senior director of professional development, for an article on 14 foods that make you look older.

The New York Times quoted Dr. Courtney Chinn, clinical associate professor of pediatric dentistry and director of the Advanced Education Program in Pediatric Dentistry, in an article on the prevalence of caries in preschoolers.

New York Magazine interviewed Dr. Olivier Nicolay, clinical associate professor of orthodontics and director of the Advanced Education Program in Orthodontics, for a story about the implications of candy for orthodontic health.

Dr. Oz Magazine featured an interview with Dr. Mark Wolff, professor and chair of the Department of Cariology and Comprehensive Care and associate dean for predoctoral clinical education, on tooth enamel and hypersensitivity.

Dentistry Today reported on the launch of NYUCD’s AAS Fast-Track in Dental Hygiene Program.

Health and Medicine Week reported on recent findings by NYUCD regarding the role dentists can play in providing substance-use screening and intervention.

Theverge.com interviewed Dr. Stefanie Russell, clinical associate professor of periodontology and implant dentistry and of epidemiology and health promotion, for an article on why black children in the U.S. have twice as many untreated cavities as white children.

Intothegloss.com interviewed Dr. Andrew I. Spelman, associate dean for academic affairs and professor of basic science and craniofacial biology, for an article on tongue scraping to counter bad breath.
**Self Magazine** interviewed Dr. Mark Wolff, professor and chair of the Department of Cariology and Comprehensive care and associate dean for predoctoral clinical education, on “Which is worse: skipping an annual dental exam or an annual physical exam”?

**Access Magazine** published an article by Ms. Shirley Birenz, clinical instructor in dental hygiene, on the implications of the Ebola virus for the dental profession.

**Allure Magazine** interviewed Dr. Leila Jahangiri, clinical professor and chair of the Department of Prosthodontics, on tips for fresh breath.

**Glamour.com** interviewed Dr. Mark Wolff, professor and chair of the Department of Cariology and Comprehensive Care and associate dean for predoctoral clinical education for a story addressing the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services’ new recommendations to lower the level of fluoride in water supplies.

**Bangordailynews.com, Cccmaine.org and Foxbangor.com** reported on NYUCD’s fifth annual dental outreach to Washington County and Machias, Maine.

**WebMD** interviewed Dr. Mark Wolff, professor and chair of the Department of Cariology and Comprehensive Care and associate dean for predoctoral clinical education, on oral hygiene and the benefits of mouth rinses.

**WebMD** interviewed Dr. Andrew I. Spielman, associate dean for academic affairs and professor of basic science and craniofacial biology, for a story on the influence of gut bacteria on breath.

**Futurity.org** reported on a study coauthored by Dr. Donna Albertson, senior researcher in the Blue-stone Center for Clinical Research and professor of oral and maxillofacial surgery, indicating the possibility of detection of oral cancer by monitoring bacteria in the mouth.

**Fox 5 News** interviewed Dr. Mark Wolff, professor and chair of the Department of Cariology and Comprehensive Care and associate dean for predoctoral clinical education, for a story on how patients can be sure that their dentist is recommending what’s right for them, as opposed to what is most profitable for the practice.
Men’s Health Magazine quoted Dr. Robert Glickman, professor and chair of the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, and Dr. Mark Wolff, professor and chair of the Department of Cariology and Comprehensive care and associate dean for predoctoral clinical education, in their “Ask MH” column in response to a question on the potential health risks associated with keeping your wisdom teeth. Dr. Wolff was also quoted in the “2-Second Lifesavers” section on correct teeth brushing technique and tips for keeping your breath fresh, and on demineralization and tooth sensitivity. The magazine also featured research by Dr. Angela Kamer, assistant professor of periodontology and implant dentistry, on the potential link between periodontal disease and Alzheimer’s disease.

The Los Angeles Times and The Baltimore Sun quoted Dr. Richard Niederman, professor and chair of the Department of Epidemiology and Health Promotion, in an article on the debate surrounding removing wisdom teeth.

ABC7 New York Eyewitness News broadcast a segment with Dr. Lucy Troncoso, clinical assistant professor of cariology and comprehensive care, about dental care for Latinos. ABC7 New York Eyewitness News also featured Dr. Courtney Chinn, clinical associate professor of pediatric dentistry and director of the Advanced Education Program in Pediatric Dentistry, for a story on brushing techniques for children.

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Parents Magazine interviewed Dr. Courtney Chinn, clinical associate professor of pediatric dentistry and director of the Advanced Education Program in Pediatric Dentistry, on tips to improve children’s oral health.

Humana.com quoted Dr. Mark Wolff, professor and chair of the Department of Cariology and Comprehensive care and associate dean for predoctoral clinical education, for an article on everyday habits that may damage teeth.

The New York Observer featured Dr. Leila Jahangiri, clinical professor and chair of the Department of Prosthodontics, as one of eight leading New York professors.

NY1 News reported on an NYUCD-led partnership with Forestdale, a foster care home in Forest Hills, Queens, which launched a dental health program for its children.

Elements4Health quoted Dr. Brian Schmidt, professor of oral and maxillofacial surgery and director of the Bluestone Center for Clinical Research and of the NYU Oral Cancer Center, for a story about the use of cannabinoids as a treatment for oral cancer pain.

ABC7 Online reported on NYUCD’s free dental screenings held in October 2014.
**Doctor Radio** featured its fourth annual weeklong series on oral health entitled “Start Your Summer with a Smile.” The program was hosted by Dr. Mark Wolff, professor and chair of the Department of Cariology and Comprehensive Care and associate dean for predoctoral clinical education. The live, call-in program featured a range of topics and NYU dental experts, including “An Ounce of Prevention Is Worth a Pound of Cure”—strategies for preventing caries in children—with Dr. Bill Bongiorno, clinical assistant professor of cariology and comprehensive care, and Dr. Courtney Chinn, clinical associate professor of pediatric dentistry and director of the Advanced Education Program in Pediatric Dentistry; “Dental Tips for a Younger Smile and Appearance,” with Dr. Gerald Curatola, clinical associate professor of cariology and comprehensive care; “How Often Do I Have to Brush, Floss, and Other Common Dental Questions,” with Dr. Miriam Robbins, associate professor and associate chair of the Department of Maxillofacial Pathology, Radiology and Medicine; “Why Does It Taste So Good,” with chefs Lauren DeSteno and Tracy Obolsky, and Dr. Andrew I. Spielman, professor of basic science and craniofacial biology and associate dean for academic affairs; and “Does It Have to Hurt,” with Dr. Robert S. Glickman, professor and chair of the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery; and Dr. David Hershkowitz, clinical associate professor and associate chair of the Department of Cariology and Comprehensive Care, for a show on general dental health.

**Redbook** interviewed Dr. Mark Wolff, professor and chair of the Department of Cariology and Comprehensive Care and associate dean for predoctoral clinical education, for a story on how to determine whether or not patients floss their teeth, and Dr. Eugene Antenucci, clinical assistant professor of cariology and comprehensive care, on choosing an electric toothbrush.
NYUCD and UCSF Researchers Develop a Framework for Monitoring Oral Cancer Development, Progression, and Recurrence

Each year, approximately 22,000 Americans are diagnosed with oral cancer. The five-year survival rate of 40 percent in the U.S. is one of the lowest of the major cancers, and it has not improved in the past 40 years. More people die each year in the U.S. from oral cancer than from melanoma or from cervical or ovarian cancer. Worldwide, the incidence of oral cancer is increasing, particularly among young people and women of all ages, with an estimated 350,000 to 400,000 new cases diagnosed each year.

With support from Roche, the National Center for Research Resources, the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences, and the National Institutes of Health (NIH), Dr. Brian Schmidt, professor of oral and maxillofacial surgery and director of the Bluestone Center for Clinical Research and the Oral Cancer Center at NYUCD; Dr. Donna Albertson, professor of oral and maxillofacial surgery and leader of the oral cancer genomic program at NYUCD’s Oral Cancer Center; and colleagues at the University of California San Francisco (UCSF) are looking at shifts in the composition of the oral microbiome to be potential promoters or causes of oral cancer.

“The major risk factors, tobacco and alcohol use, alone cannot explain the changes in incidence because oral cancer also commonly occurs in patients without a history of tobacco or alcohol exposure.”

Dr. Brian Schmidt

Changes in the microbial community are commonly associated with dental diseases such as periodontal disease, which is most likely a poly-microbial disease characterized by outgrowth of certain pathologic organisms, and chronic periodontitis has been reported to be a risk factor for oral premalignant lesions and cancers.

“We know that other cancers, including gallbladder, colon, lung, and prostate, have been associated with particular bacterial infections, so we hypothesized that shifts in
the composition of the normal oral cavity microbiome could be promoters or causes of oral cancer," said Dr. Albertson.

Drs. Schmidt and Albertson and their team profiled cancers and anatomically matched contralateral normal tissue from the same patient by sequencing 16S rDNA hypervariable region amplicons. The team’s findings, “Changes in Abundance of Oral Microbiota Associated with Oral Cancer,” published online in the journal *PLOS ONE* (June 2, 2014), begin to develop a framework for exploiting the oral microbiome for monitoring oral cancer development, progression, and recurrence.

“The oral cavity offers a unique opportunity to screen at-risk individuals for (oral) cancer, because the lesions can be seen directly. Moreover, the shift in the microbiome of the cancer and precancer lesions compared to anatomically matched clinically normal tissue from the same individual can be detected in non-invasively collected swab samples,” said Dr. Schmidt.

Non-invasively sampling the microbiome of oral lesions and corresponding normal tissue opens the possibility not only to detect cancer-associated changes at one time point, but the relative stability of the adult oral microbiome also offers the opportunity to monitor shifts in bacterial communities over time.

“Here we observed changes in the microbiome, which, in future larger studies, may be confirmed as a potential biomarker of oral cancers or precancers, and may even have utility to discriminate patients with lymph node metastases,” noted Dr. Albertson. “In addition, there are other challenges in clinical management of oral cancers that would benefit from better diagnostic tools.”

Oral cancer patients are also at risk of second primary cancers and recurrences. The microbiome may provide signatures that can be used as a biomarker for monitoring field changes associated with the high rate of second primary oral cancers and recurrences. The team also noted the possibility of medically modulating the oral microbiome for treatment of oral precancers and damaged fields (field cancerization).
Research by members of NYUCD’s Family Translational Research Group (FTRG) investigating the relationship between family environment and oral health and a systematic review by members of the periodontal faculty of the literature on the potential effectiveness of systemic antimicrobial therapy in treating periodontal disease were featured in cover stories in the September 2014 and March 2015 issues of the Journal of the American Dental Association (JADA).

Titled “Noxious Family Environments in Relation to Adult and Childhood Caries,” the September 2014 story reports on research that found that family oral health may suffer because “noxious” behaviors such as hitting, kicking, insults, and threats create an emotional environment that undermines organized routines such as regular tooth brushing or promotes stress eating. The research team was led by Dr. Michael Lorber, research scientist in the Department of Cariology and Comprehensive Care and director of developmental research for the Family Translational Research Group. The researchers found that parents with poor oral health often had partners who were more verbally or physically hostile to them. And children whose mothers were emotionally aggressive to their fathers also had more decayed, missing, or filled teeth.

“The more physical, verbal aggression there was in the home, the more cavities parents and children had,” said Dr. Lorber. “There’s a good history in the scientific literature of negative family environments being associated with bad health,” added Dr. Lorber, “so I guess our findings aren’t surprising in that regard.” He noted that his team “had a really consistent set of findings that the more your partner is nasty to you, the more lesions there are on your teeth.”

“Dentists are an underutilized point of contact for people,” said Dr. Lorber. “Because many people go to their dentists regularly, dentists are in a position to screen for a lot of things that
might not otherwise be detected. We envision a future where dentists would ask the questions we asked," he concluded.

The March 2015 JADA cover story, entitled “Effectiveness of Systemic Antimicrobial Therapy in Combination with Scaling and Root Planing in the Treatment of Periodontitis,” reports on research by NYU periodontal faculty to determine if the use of systemic antibiotics in conjunction with scaling and root planing (SRP) may improve the clinical outcome and might be essential for successful treatment of periodontitis.

The authors of this study, led by Dr. Peter Loomer, clinical professor and chair of the Ashman Department of Periodontology and Implant Dentistry, reviewed the available literature related to this hypothesis, evaluating the effectiveness of the use of systemic antimicrobials in combination with SRP versus SRP alone in the treatment of chronic periodontitis (CP) or aggressive periodontitis (AgP). Authors included Dr. Garcia Canas, clinical assistant fellow in the Ashman Department of Periodontology and Implant Dentistry; Dr. Ismael Khouly, clinical assistant professor in the Ashman Department; and Dr. Javier Sanz, a resident in periodontology at the Faculty of Dentistry, Complutense University, Madrid.

According to Dr. Loomer, “Owing to the high level of heterogeneity of the studies included in this review, the authors could not establish definitive conclusions and guidelines regarding the adjunctive systemic antibiotics. However, within the limitations of this review, the use of systemic antibiotics with SRP may be beneficial for specific populations. Standardized clinical disease diagnostic criteria and additional randomized controlled clinical trials are necessary to verify the effectiveness of the use of adjunctive systemic antimicrobials with SRP.”

He added that “Owing to methodological differences and biases among clinical trials evaluating systemic antibiotics adjunctive to SRP, clinicians should base their decisions to prescribe on the results of weighing both benefits and risks for each patient.”
NYUCD Junior Researchers in the Spotlight

Renee Kojanis, ‘16, Wins Second Place in National ADA/Dentsply Student Clinician Research Program

Renee Kojanis, Class of 2016, was awarded second place in the basic science category of the 2014 American Dental Association/ Dentsply Student Clinician Research Program at the annual ADA meeting in San Antonio, Texas. More than 70 dental students from throughout the U.S. presented their clinical, basic science, and public health research at the meeting. Ms. Kojanis was recognized for her presentation titled “Molecular Events in Mid-Palatal Suture During Maxillary Expansion in Rats,” conducted under the tutelage of Dr. Mani Alikhani, associate professor of orthodontics and director of the Consortium for Translational Orthodontic Research (CTOR).

Dr. Chi Tonglien Viet Receives AAOMS Resident Research Award

Dr. Chi Tonglien Viet, a fifth-year resident in the NYU Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Program and adjunct professor of oral and maxillofacial surgery, was awarded the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons 2014 Resident Research Award in recognition of the superior standards of research and clinical application demonstrated in her paper entitled “Demethylating Drugs as Novel Analgesics for Cancer Pain.”
Journal of Biological Chemistry Selects Paper by Dr. Juhee Jeong as “Paper of the Week”

A paper by Dr. Juhee Jeong, assistant professor of basic science and craniofacial biology, was selected by the Journal of Biological Chemistry as Paper of the Week. The paper, titled “Making a Face: Regulation of Gene Expression during Craniofacial Development,” appeared in the October 31, 2014, online issue of the journal.

Dr. Jeong and her NYU dental research team sought to understand how the expression of LHX8, a key transcription factor in craniofacial development, was controlled in mice. Some mutations in the LHX8 gene have been linked to cleft palate so the investigators focused on maxillary arch cells which form in the upper jaw. They demonstrated that the expression of LHX8 was regulated by an enhancer called LHX8_enh1. Enhancers are critical for ensuring that the correct genes get turned on and off at the proper times.

“Together,” says Dr. Jeong, “we uncovered a molecular mechanism for the regulation of LHX8, and we provided valuable resources for further investigation into the gene regulatory network of craniofacial development.”

Dr. Yi Ye Selected as American Pain Society’s 2015 Rita Allen Pain Scholar

Dr. Yi Ye, assistant professor of oral and maxillofacial surgery and associate director of clinical research operations at the Bluestone Center for Clinical Research, is the recipient of the American Pain Society’s 2015 Rita Allen Pain Scholar Award. The award recognizes “persuasive evidence of distinguished achievement or extraordinary promise in basic science research in pain.” Dr. Ye was selected for her proposal titled “The Role of Schwann Cells in Neural Invasion and Associated Cancer Pain.”

Dr. Ye’s research focuses on the neurobiological basis of cancer pain, and, specifically, on neural invasion (NI), a process whereby cancer cells spread along and invade nerves. This process is frequently observed in head and neck squamous cell carcinoma (HNSCC) patients, and is strongly linked to a poor prognosis. Dr. Ye seeks to understand whether NI contributes to HNSCC pain. Ultimately, she aspires to develop novel therapies that target mechanisms common to both cancer pain and cancer progression.
2015 Research Days Honor Dr. Kathleen Kinnally and 26 Prize-Winning Students

NYU CUD’s Annual Student Research Days, held on April 23 and 24, 2015, once again showcased outstanding work by students in the clinical and basic sciences. Among the 128 College of Dentistry students who presented ePosters at the event, 26 individuals were recognized for exemplary achievement.

The two-day exhibition also paid tribute to Dr. Kathleen “Casey” Kinnally, who was the program’s keynote speaker. Dr. Kinnally, professor of basic science and craniofacial biology, course coordinator of the Honors in Research Program, and founder of the NYU CUD Summer Research Experience—the largest summer research program in the country—joined NYU CUD in 2000, and recently announced her retirement, effective September 30, 2015. Vice Dean for Research and Academic Affairs Dr. Louis Terracio presented Dr. Kinnally with a crystal sculpture in the shape of a flame symbolizing both the NYU torch and the enduring relationship between Dr. Kinnally and NYU CUD.

“Casey was selected as the keynote speaker for Research Days in recognition of the impact she has made on the student research program at NYU CUD,” said Vice Dean Terracio. “She established both the Honors in Research Program and the Summer Research Program for incoming students, and has mentored more NYU CUD students than anyone else,” added Vice Dean Terracio. “Her retirement leaves us with big shoes to fill.”

NYU CUD congratulates Dr. Kinnally and all of the Research Days award recipients, whose names, presentations, and mentors are listed below.

**Dean’s Award for Outstanding Presentation**
Ms. Renee Kojanis, Dental DDS, ’16
Coupling Factors in Mid-Palatal Suture in Response to Transverse Forces
Mentor: Dr. Mani Alikhani

**Outstanding Presentation by a Postdoctoral Associate**
Dr. Maria de la Encarnacion Solesio Torregrosa
Mammalian Inorganic Polyphosphate (polyP) in Regulation of Mitochondrial Free Calcium
Mentor: Dr. Evgeny Pavlov

**Dean’s Award, DDS Student**
Ms. Alexandra Osviy, Dental DDS, ’17 YES – MS.
Swine Metabolomics Provides Clue to Calcium Flux During Enamel Formation
Mentor: Dr. Timothy Bromage

**Best Basic Science Presentation by a DDS Student**
Ms. Lindsay Deacon, Dental DDS, ’17
Role of Rsop3 Gene in Tooth Development
Mentor: Dr. Juhee Jeong

**Outstanding Master’s Presentation**
Ms. Fatma A. Shembish
Fatigue Resistance of CAD/CAM Resin Based Composite Restorative Dental Crowns
Mentor: Dr. Yu Zhang

**Outstanding Presentation by a Resident in Periodontology and Implant Dentistry**
Dr. Wendy Wang, Dental PG, ’16
Nociceptive Response in Mouse Models of Malignant and Benign Breast Tumors
Mentor: Dr. Sang-Choon Cho

**Honorable Mention by a Resident in Periodontology and Implant Dentistry**
Dr. Ye Shi, Dental PG, ’16
Re-Osseointegration on Contaminated Peri-implantitis Implant. A Human Histological Study
Mentor: Dr. Peter Loomer

**Outstanding Presentation by a Resident in Oral Surgery**
Dr. Guido Galletti, Dental PG, ’16
3D Printed Scaffold for the Treatment of Non-Supportive Infrabony Periodontal Defects
Mentor: Dr. Robert S. Glickman

**Outstanding Presentation by a Resident in Pediatric Dentistry**
Dr. Rex Chuang, Dental PG, ’15
Pilot Study: Comparing Various Educational Strategies Delivering Fluoride Education to Children
Mentor: Dr. Neal Herman

**Outstanding Presentation by a Resident in Endodontics**
Dr. Pierre Wohlgemuth
Effectiveness of the Gentle-Wave™ System in Removing Separated Instruments
Mentor: Dr. Asgeir Sigurdsson

**Outstanding Presentation by a Resident in Orthodontics**
Dr. Luz Maria Barrera Alviar
Orthopedic Effect of High Frequency Acceleration on the Mandibular Condyle
Mentor: Dr. Mani Alikhani

**Honorable Mention, Resident in Orthodontics**
Dr. Ayat Alzaki,
Effect of Estrogen-Deficiency on Bone Density of Alveolar Bone During Orthodontic TMJ
Mentor: Dr. Mani Alikhani

**Best Presentation by a Research Scholar**
Ms. Asima Chughtai
On the Interfacial Fracture Resistance of Resin Bonded Zirconia and Graded Zirconia
Mentor: Dr. Yu Zhang

**Violight Jonathan A. Ship Award for Translational Research**
Mr. Darren Huang, Dental DDS, ’15
Gene Therapy for Sutural and Condylar Growth
Mentor: Dr. Mani Alikhani
Racquel Z. LeGeros Research Award, Biomaterials
Ms. Elizabeth C. Needels, Dental DDS, ’18
Physiochemical Composition and Microstructure Characterization of Three-Dimensional HA/TCP Scaffolds
Mentor: Dr. John Ricci

OKU, Dr. Michael C. Alfano Award for Excellence in Research
Mr. Darren Huang, Dental DDS, ’16
Gene Therapy for Sutural and Condylar Growth
Mentor: Dr. Mani Alikhani

NYUCD Student Research Group Award
Mr. Dayoon Lee, Dental DDS, ’18
Effect of Foxo1 Deletion on Endochondral Bone Formation
Mentor: Dr. Mani Alikhani

Best Case Study Presentation by a DDS Student
Mr. Naga Tarun Guntpalli, Dental DDS, ’18
Histopathologic Features of Bisphosphonate-Related Osteonecrosis of the Jaws
Mentor: Dr. Joan Phelan

Best Clinical Science Presentation by a DDS Student
Mr. Christopher Bedoya, Dental DDS, ’17
Salivary Pro-Inflammatory Cytokine Changes Following Oral Care Intervention in Patients with Mucositis
Mentor: Dr. Patricia Corby

Dentsply Award
Mr. Christopher Schiller, Dental DDS, ’17
Signaling Pathways of Pulp Capping in Mouse Pulp Cells
Mentor: Dr. Emi Shimizu

Honorable Mention, DDS Student
Mr. Chaim Adler, Dental DDS, ’16
Preservative Effects of High-Frequency Acceleration on Alveolar Bone after Extraction
Mentor: Dr. Mani Alikhani

Mr. Daniel Choi, Dental DDS, ’18
Incidence Trends for Head and Neck Cancer Sites Related to HPV
Mentor: Dr. Douglas E. Morse

Ms. Jessica Yiwel Li, Dental DDS, ’17
Novel In Vivo role of FGF-7 in Mineral Ion Homeostasis
Mentor: Dr. Despina Sitara

Dr. Arpita S. Patel, Dental DDS, ’15
Osseointegration of Dental Implants Utilizing a Single-Multistep vs. Conventional Drilling
Mentor: Dr. Paulo Coelho

Dr. Sean Seung Yoon, Dental DDS, ’15
Biological Saturation Point During Orthodontic Tooth Movement
Mentor: Dr. Mani Alikhani

Outstanding Presentation by a Dental Hygiene Student
Ms. Christina Cerfo and Ms. Nicki Wolfersberger
The Effect of Regenerating Tooth Tissues from Stem Cells
Mentor: Rosemary Hays, RDH, MS
NYU Study Successfully Screens for Diabetes at Dental Visits Using Oral Blood

**RESEARCHERS FIND A 99 PERCENT CORRELATION BETWEEN TESTS FOR HEMOGLOBIN A1C AT DENTAL VISITS USING FINGER STICK AND ORAL BLOOD**

It is estimated that 8.1 million of the 29.1 Americans living with diabetes are undiagnosed and many who have diabetes have poor glycemic control. Given that each year many Americans visit a dentist but not a general healthcare provider, a dental office may be an opportune site for diabetes screening and monitoring of glucose control for many at-risk patients.

Now, a new study published in the *American Journal of Public Health* confirms that using gingival crevicular blood (GCB) for hemoglobin A1c (HbA1c) testing produced values that were nearly identical to those obtained using finger-stick blood (FSB), with a correlation of .991 between the two blood samples of 408 dental patients. Testing HbA1c is promoted by the American Diabetes Association for diabetes diagnostic purposes and glycemic control monitoring.

“In light of findings from the study, the dental visit could be a useful opportunity to conduct diabetes screening among at-risk, undiagnosed patients—an important first step in identifying those who need further testing to determine their diabetes status,” said the study’s principal investigator, Dr. Shiela Strauss, associate professor of nursing and co-director of the Statistics and Data Management Core for NYU’s Colleges of Dentistry and Nursing.

The study, “The Potential for Glycemic Control Monitoring and Screening for Diabetes at Dental Visits Using Oral Blood,” builds upon an earlier pilot study in which the feasibility and acceptability to patients and dental providers of using oral blood to screen for diabetes during a routine dental exam was demonstrated.

While all people at risk for diabetes who were never told they had the condition can potentially benefit from additional opportunities for diabetes screening, Dr. Strauss and her team found great benefit from diabetes screening at dental visits. The researchers also noted that HbA1c testing at dental visits could serve as an additional opportunity to determine the extent of glycemic control among those already diagnosed.

“Our study has considerable public health significance because we identify the value and importance of capitalizing on an opportunity at the dental visit (a) to screen at-risk, but as yet undiagnosed, patients for diabetes (especially those 45 years or older), and (b) to monitor glycemic control in those already diagnosed in order to enable them to maintain their health to the greatest extent possible,” said Dr. Strauss.
NYU College of Dentistry Partners with Rheonix, Inc., on NIH Grant to Develop Test to Detect HIV Antibodies and HIV RNA in a Single POC Diagnostic Device

The NYU team will work to help achieve a commercial-ready test for use in the developing world.

NYUCD has received a sub-award in the amount of $335,000 from a Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Phase II grant from the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR), part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), to complete the development of a fully automated self-confirming assay that can simultaneously detect HIV/AIDS antibodies and viral RNA from the AIDS virus in a single specimen.

The $1.5M Phase II grant was awarded to Rheonix, Inc., an Ithaca, New York-based medical technology company specializing in making automated and highly customizable molecular diagnostic devices. The NYUCD portion of the grant is led by Dr. Daniel Malamud, professor of basic science and craniofacial biology and director of the HIV/AIDS Research Program at NYUCD.

“Current HIV corroborative testing requires considerable time and cost, and is often not available in remote geographic areas,” said Dr. Malamud. “As a result, many individuals with a positive antibody screening test opt out of taking the corroborative test. Our research aims to address this problem through the development of an affordable, easy-to-use point-of-care (POC) test, capable of detecting pathogen nucleic acids and antibodies to the pathogens in less than one hour.”

Working with Rheonix, Dr. Malamud and his team utilize a Rheonix CARD® cartridge system: a simple disposable card that acts as a receptacle for blood or saliva samples. The card is then placed on an instrument that carries out all of the required steps in processing the sample. Within seven minutes, one part of the sample runs out onto a strip to detect HIV antibodies, while another portion of the sample undergoes isolation of nucleic acid and amplification using LAMP, an isothermal process. The entire testing process takes less than one hour, is mobile, and can be battery operated.

“In order to get approval, you need to prove that you’re as good as the existing commercial equivalent,” explained Dr. Malamud. “We have proof that our system works, but we have tested hundreds of samples and we need thousands.

“I’m reasonably confident that within 18 months we will have a finished product, which will allow an individual to collect a sample, insert it into the CARD, push a button, and, within one hour, have an accurate test result,” said Dr. Malamud.
A Piano Recital in Septodont Hall Honors Major Donors

The architecturally stunning new Septodont Hall was the setting for a special performance in honor of NYUCD’s donors by famed pianist, composer, and recording artist, Julian Gargiulo. Mr. Gargiulo performs regularly in venues such as Carnegie Hall, the United Nations, Moscow Conservatory Hall, Symphony Stage in Singapore, and Sydney’s Seymour Theatre Centre. Mr. Gargiulo held his audience in rapt attention as he performed classical pieces combining piano and humor in a way that allowed the listener to feel engaged in the music-making process.

The performance was followed by a reception in the adjoining Saklad Atrium.

“Over and over again,” said Dean Bertolami, “our alumni and friends demonstrate their belief in NYUCD’s future by making the College of Dentistry a philanthropic priority. Our ability to say ‘thank–you’ in this special way means a great deal to us.”
NYU College of Dentistry Partners with Columbia University on Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation Grant to Test a Non-Surgical Disease Management Model for Early Childhood Caries

NYUCD has received a sub-award in the amount of $967,235 from the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation to coordinate a consortium of pediatric dental residency programs that, together, will provide “dental homes” for children enrolled in a program to test a non-surgical disease management model for early childhood caries. A “dental home” refers to the ongoing relationship between a licensed dentist and the patient, inclusive of all aspects of oral health care delivered in a comprehensive, continuously accessible, coordinated, and family-centered way.

The model uses family-level, peer-counseled, and technology-assisted behavioral risk reduction strategies to reduce new caries, reduce progression of existing caries, reduce caries-associated pain, and, ultimately, reduce the number of children treated in the operating room using highly invasive and costly procedures.

The nearly $4M total grant was awarded to Columbia University College of Dental Medicine, where the principal investigator is Dr. Burton Edelstein, professor of dentistry and health policy. The NYUCD portion of the grant is led by Dr. Amr M. Moursi, associate professor and chair of the Department of Pediatric Dentistry.

“The project aims to divert children with early- and advanced-stage early childhood caries (ECC) from high-cost surgical treatment to low-cost, non-surgical disease management,” said Dr. Moursi. “Together, parents and community health workers will use MySmileBuddy (MSB), a mobile tablet-based health technology, to plan, implement, and monitor positive oral health behaviors, including dietary control and use of fluorides, which can slow or arrest ECC’s progression,” he added.

MySmileBuddy was designed with a strong theoretical basis, which applies key principles of risk-based triage, early intervention, individualization, and motivational interviewing. MSB is

“This project has great potential to advance preventive and minimally invasive interventions that are consistent with American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry guidelines.”

Dr. Amr M. Moursi
designed to enhance parental knowledge, skills, and self-efficacy to reduce caries-related risk factors, proportionate to a child’s early childhood caries experience. Through home visitations, community health workers will meet in person with parents of children with early-stage early childhood caries bimonthly for one year, and with parents of children with advanced-stage ECC weekly for the first four weeks, then bimonthly thereafter for the remainder of the year. In addition, community health workers will provide tailored telephone interventions between in-person meetings to offer additional support and reinforce behavior change goals. Community health workers will also assist parents in accessing a dental home, where their children will receive timely, comprehensive oral health care from affiliated pediatric dental providers throughout New York City.

“This project has great potential to advance preventive and minimally invasive interventions that are consistent with American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry guidelines,” said Dr. Moursi.
Dr. Xin Li, an assistant professor of basic science and craniofacial biology, has received a grant of $1.2M over a four-year period from the National Cancer Institute (NCI) of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to conduct a preclinical study of the molecular mechanism of metformin, an oral anti-diabetic drug, and its potential to prevent the development and progression of prostate cancer, the second leading cause of cancer-related deaths in American men.

Current treatment techniques for prostate cancer are mostly palliative with poor prognosis. However, epidemiological studies indicate that patients taking metformin have lower prostate cancer risk and better prognosis than those not taking the drug, suggesting the potential of metformin to limit the impact of the disease.

“Our central hypothesis is that metformin acts as a novel chemo-preventive agent to restrict the initiation and progression of prostate cancer,” said Dr. Li. “Our preliminary data demonstrate that metformin reduces the MYC oncogene (cancer-promoting gene) levels both in vitro and in vivo,” she continued.

The MYC oncogene produces a DNA-binding protein that promotes cancerous cell growth and also alters prostate tumor sensitivity to mTOR (mammalian target of rapamycin) inhibitors, which regulate cell growth.

Dr. Li and her team will use mice having a regulator gene found in many cancers to examine the inhibitory effect of metformin on prostate cancer progression and also to define the epigenetic enzyme alterations that occur in metformin-treated prostate cancer.

“We postulate that our investigation of a novel combined cancer prevention therapy using metformin and mTOR inhibitors will yield important findings about the molecular mechanism of metformin on epigenetic regulations of prostate cancer, thereby helping to reshape current concepts about the role of metformin in prostate cancer treatment,” said Dr. Li.

Epidemiological studies indicate that patients taking metformin have lower prostate cancer risk and better prognosis than those not taking the drug.
The National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR) of the NIH, has awarded an NYU dental research team led by Dr. Karen Raphael, professor of oral and maxillofacial pathology, radiology and medicine, a grant of nearly $3M to study the safety of Botox® to reduce TMD (temporomandibular disorders) pain. TMDs are painful disorders involving the masticatory muscles and/or temporomandibular joint (TMJ). Some estimates suggest that over 10 million Americans are affected.

Conservative treatments are unsatisfactory for a substantial number of sufferers. As TMD patients search for alternative treatments to manage their pain, dentists and physicians are increasingly suggesting Botox injections directly into the masticatory muscles to relax them. The FDA has approved Botox for pain related to other conditions, but has not evaluated the safety or efficacy of this treatment for TMD. Clinical trials published to date have been small and have produced inconsistent findings.

Dr. Raphael and her team are asking the basic question: Is it safe to use Botox in this way? Botox causes a partial paralysis of these muscles. The paralysis changes the forces causing normal stress on the TMJ. These forces are considered necessary to maintain the usual process of breakdown and regrowth of bone. If the paralysis changes bone remodeling in the TMJ area, injection of Botox might cause unique safety concerns and unknown long-term problems. Animal studies at the University of Washington found that Botox injected into the jaw muscles of rabbits caused a serious osteoporotic condition, raising concerns that this treatment may have adverse effects on the TMJ in humans.

Still, it is unclear whether findings from a rabbit study have relevance for humans. In the first study of Botox effects on human TMJ, Dr. Raphael and colleagues both at NYUCD and at the University of Connecticut published a 2014 pilot study of seven women who had been treated with Botox for their TMD pain and nine matched women who had never received Botox. Participants underwent specialized radiological imaging of their TMJs. The images were evaluated by oral and maxillofacial radiologists who did not know their treatment history. The radiologists found abnormally low bone density in the TMJ area in all of the women treated with Botox and in none of the women who did not receive Botox.

Dr. Raphael and her team will conduct a much larger study with the help of the NIH grant. If Botox is found to be a safe treatment when injected into the masticatory muscles, the team plans to conduct a randomized, controlled clinical trial to address the broader question of whether Botox injections actually help to reduce TMD pain.
Dr. Michael Lorber, research scientist and adjunct professor in the Department of Cariology and Comprehensive Care, and coinvestigators Dr. Amy Smith Slep and Dr. Richard E. Heymann, both professors of cariology and comprehensive care, have been awarded a $427,459 grant from the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) to study whether “coercive process” plays a role in adolescent dating violence.

Such violence affects between 7 and 30 percent of youth in high school relationships and exacts a substantial toll on public health, according to Dr. Lorber. Violent patterns begun in youth may become deeply entrenched by adulthood, and therefore preventing dating violence has become a concern not only of the NIH but of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and several noted investigators.

Most past research on risk factors for dating violence has examined the characteristics of individuals that might lead to violent conflict, such as a history of depression, a difficult home environment, or anger-management difficulties. However, according to Dr. Lorber, “There are clear indications in the research literature that adolescent couples’ relationship dynamics are important factors,” and rigorous studies to uncover those dynamics have been rare. The current study is novel because it seeks to identify malleable risk factors in couples’ conflict styles that might point to successful violence-prevention tactics.

The researchers are recruiting 100 New York City 14- to 18-year-old dating couples to test the hypothesis that some adolescent couples may inadvertently provide one another with “basic training” in hostile behavior. They will test their hypothesis that violence will be elevated in couples for whom aversive behaviors are more effective than non-aversive ones in terminating conflict. “In other words,” Dr. Lorber says, “do couples who learn that hostile behavior is the most efficient and effective method to get their way in an argument become more violent?”

“Teen relationships are training for adult relationships,” says Dr. Amy Smith Slep, who is collaborating on the study with Dr. Lorber and other members of the Family Translational Research Group at NYUCD. “Studies of adult couple violence show that it’s well in place before marriage.”

The study stems from groundbreaking research by Gerald Patterson and his colleagues at the Oregon Social Learning Center, showing the power of “coercive processes” in explaining parent-child and sibling dynamics that contribute to child aggression. Some have hypothesized that the same coercive process is in play in adolescent couples’ dating violence, but the theory has yet to be directly tested.

Dr. Lorber and his colleagues will apply their well-established expertise in intimate violence, couples observation, and development to their fundamental “basic training” premise of the coercion model. They will also explore whether couples’ previously identified risk factors (such as antisocial behavior) lead to coercion, or whether coercion explains dating violence independent of the influence of other factors.
Dr. Lorber was also awarded a three-year, $795,501 grant, with Drs. Smith Slep and Richard Heyman as co-principal investigators, from the National Institute of Justice to further explore relationship processes in the development of teen dating violence.

This additional grant extends the NICHD-funded study to support the identification of several additional couple interaction patterns in teen dating violence. They will be investigating whether the same maladaptive interaction patterns that predict current teen dating violence predict similar violence in the future. Their study will also examine whether the effects of maladaptive interaction patterns on teen dating violence transcend the relationship in which they were observed and whether these maladaptive patterns magnify the impact of other risk factors (for example, jealousy).

Using the same keen eye that underpins his skill as a research assistant in the laboratory of Dr. Nicola Partridge, right, professor and chair of the Department of Basic Science and Craniofacial Biology, James He discovered a pink pipette tip box among a shipment that usually contained white or blue boxes. The company, WorldWide Life Sciences Division, which had included the pink boxes as part of a promotional campaign, rewarded Dr. Partridge’s lab with a check for $1,000.
Dr. Victoria H. Raveis, research professor and director of the Psychosocial Research Unit on Health, Aging and the Community in the Department of Cariology and Comprehensive Care, has received a subcontractor grant in the amount of $896,331 from the Patient-Centered Research Outcomes Institute in collaboration with the University of Maryland, Baltimore, for a study aimed at improving the well-being and quality of life for HIV-positive young men who have sex with men. The study tests an educational intervention designed to enhance the delivery of patient-centered care and improve patients’ engagement and adherence to treatment at the Baltimore-based HIV clinics they attend.

The mental and physical outcomes for these young men, who are primarily African American, tend to be poor despite the availability of HIV care and treatment services. Patients in this population have high rates of missed healthcare appointments and may forgo their treatment until there is a crisis. The $2,109,889, three-year, mixed-method study, called CASA: Care and Support Access Study for Implementation of a Palliative Approach with HIV Treatment, will be conducted by Dr. Raveis and Dr. Carla Alexander of the University of Maryland, Baltimore. Enrolling about 100 patients aged 18 to 35 at two sites (an intervention site and a control site), it will examine patients’ engagement and retention in care as well as their clinical outcomes.

Palliative care is often understood as end-of-life care, but Dr. Raveis explains that its true meaning is care that considers the individual in his or her broader life circumstances when addressing health needs. In this case, it involves addressing the psychosocial factors that influence young men’s adherence to their complex care regimens and motivation to attend regular appointments.

Within a “train the trainer” framework, care providers will learn to clarify treatment goals with their patients, making sure goal-setting is based on patient, family, and staff input, and attention is given to symptoms that impact their quality of life. Care providers will also learn communications skills to address difficult and taboo topics and convey the need for timely appointments and adherence to care plans.

If successful, the early integration of a palliative approach could be appropriate for any patient in these professionals’ care, particularly those patients with complex, chronic health conditions that are compounded by situational issues.
Dr. Shoshana Yakar, associate professor of basic science and craniofacial biology, has been awarded a grant in the amount of $1,323,235 by the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases, part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), to study the potential of osteocytes (bone cells) to control bone formation during growth.

Currently the clinical management of osteoporosis and age-related bone disease is limited to symptomatic treatment and is directed mainly at slowing the rate of bone loss by using agents that inhibit bone resorption. Yet the number of patients with osteoporosis is growing exponentially and healthcare costs related to osteoporosis management are skyrocketing.

Dr. Yakar’s hypothesis is that osteocyte response to growth hormone (GH) plays a central role in regulating the acquisition of bone mass, and does so via mechanisms independent of GH effects on linear growth. Growth hormone and the transfer of genetic material from one cell to the other (transduction) of insulin-like growth factor-1 (IGF-1) play critical roles in bone buildup during growth by regulating not only linear growth but also transversal bone growth, an important factor determining bone strength.

Her research focuses, for the first time, on osteocytes not only in terms of regulating the bone’s response to stress and mechanical load, but also as integrators of endocrine signals that control bone formation during growth. Her approach is to study mechanisms which optimize peak bone acquisition during puberty.

Dr. Yakar’s research is expected to lead to the development of interventions for the prevention of age-related bone loss, with the ultimate goal of creating a paradigm shift from treatment of osteoporosis to prevention.
Dr. Amy Smith Slep Receives Grant to Reinforce the Military Child-Protection System

Dr. Amy Smith Slep, professor of cariology and comprehensive care, has received a grant in the amount of $436,000 in collaboration with Pennsylvania State University, the principal investigator, to conduct a project to reinforce the U.S. military’s child-protection system. The project, funded through the U.S. Department of Defense Family Advocacy Program in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, involves creating a Severity Scales Decision Tree, which helps military mental health staff rate the severity of child and domestic abuse.

The project builds on the work that Drs. Slep, Richard Heyman, and colleagues from the Family Translational Research Group (FTRG) at NYUCD have conducted over several years with the U.S. Air Force Family Advocacy Program. Dr. Smith Slep’s group previously helped the Department of Defense to refine and make consistent their definitions of maltreatment. The success of that project led the department to ask the team to return and make consistent the severity ratings used in family-maltreatment settings.

The military is required to classify as mild, moderate, or severe cases of child physical, emotional, and sexual abuse and neglect as well as partner physical, emotional, and sexual abuse. But caseworkers and other clinicians do not always view these cases in the same light, and the data are not useful if not used consistently across the board. Dr. Smith Slep explains that the computer-based scales—which interface with the Department of Defense computing platform—are used for a variety of situations; for example, members of Congress may request information about whether the severity of maltreatment has worsened since the beginning of a war.

The scales Dr. Smith Slep’s team devised are highly reliable across all the military services—and are being implemented worldwide. To test the severity scales, the team conducted extensive field work with clinicians, talking through specific cases to capture gradations that exist in maltreatment. Researchers at Penn State developed the digital infrastructure for the scales and are supporting their worldwide rollout—including training materials—and evaluation.
Dr. Donna Albertson, professor of oral and maxillofacial surgery and leader of the oral cancer genomics research program at the NYU Oral Cancer Center, and Dr. Patricia Corby, former assistant professor of periodontology and implant dentistry, former associate director of the Bluestone Center for Clinical Research, and currently director of clinical research operations at the NYU Langone Medical Center, are recipients of NYU “mega grants,” a new, university-wide initiative designed to maximize faculty members’ chances of success in securing federal support for center- and institute-based research. Each “mega grant” provides $50,000 in seed funding to better enable faculty to prepare large grant proposals—in the range of $2 million to $25 million.

Dr. Albertson received a mega grant for her study entitled “A Genomic Biomarker to Predict Risk of Oral Cancer Metastasis.” Her coinvestigator is Dr. Brian L. Schmidt, professor of oral and maxillofacial surgery and director of the NYU Bluestone Center for Clinical Research and the NYU Oral Cancer Center. Their mega grant award is being used for development/validation of a molecular assay that will be used to evaluate their recently discovered genomic biomarker that potentially identifies patients with early-stage oral cancer who are at low risk of metastasis and therefore will not need a prophylactic neck dissection.

Dr. Corby received two mega grants. The first award is for an international collaboration entitled “Oral Health Calibration in Ghana Following the CDC National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NAHANES) Guidelines,” which aims to perform the first U.S. initiated standardized oral health research calibration in Ghana, Africa, with the collaboration of the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Division of Oral Health. The second mega grant, also an international collaboration, was awarded to Dr. Corby for “The Microbiome of Oral Mucositis: A Clinical Trial to Evaluate a Novel Oral Care Protocol for the Management of Radiation or Chemoradiation Therapy-Induced Mucositis.” The study will evaluate the oral microbiome of oral mucositis before and after the implementation/testing of an oral care protocol for the management of mucositis in cancer patients undergoing radiation or chemoradiation and also will evaluate the clinical impact of its implementation.
Student Leadership Retreat Offers Dental Students Structured Leadership Training

Event Inspires New Student Leadership Track to Prepare DDS Students to Be Effective Leaders in the Profession and the Larger Community

“It is our responsibility as faculty and administrators to prepare our students not only with the didactic knowledge and practical skills required to practice dentistry, but also to prepare them to become leaders in the profession and the communities they serve,” says Staci Ripkey, assistant dean for student affairs and academic support services.

With that goal in mind, Dean Ripkey and the Office of Student Affairs and Academic Support Services initiated, planned, and led NYUCD’s first student leadership retreat, which took place over a weekend at a picturesque Connecticut hotel and conference center. The retreat was made possible by generous support from Colgate-Palmolive, which cosponsored the event.
weekend at a picturesque Connecticut hotel and conference center. The retreat was made possible by generous support from Colgate-Palmolive, which cosponsored the event.

According to Dean Ripkey, “Literature on leadership development programs in colleges, universities, and professional schools demonstrates that structured student leadership training initiatives can have a tremendous impact on students’ ability to manage the responsibilities of leading their peers effectively, ethically, and responsibly, while also empowering them with the tools, insight, and confidence to be active and effective leaders in their future professional lives.”

“In fact,” she adds, “research indicates that intentional student leadership development training enhances students’ self-efficacy, civic engagement, character development, academic performance, and personal development—all of which are critical to success as ethical and culturally competent leaders and healthcare professionals.”

Fifty DDS students were selected to participate in the retreat from among the leaders of NYUCD’s approximately 40 student clubs and organizations. Guest speakers included Dean Bertolami, a panel of NYUCD alumni, faculty from the NYU School of Medicine, and corporate leaders from Colgate-Palmolive.

Initially, student participants didn’t know what to expect. For Dr. Simon Mosery, ’15, president of the Student Council, participation meant giving up a precious weekend of surfing. “I was skeptical,” says Simon. “But as soon as I heard Dean Bertolami’s opening remarks, I knew it was going to be a transformative weekend for me.”

“Dean Bertolami set the tone for the entire weekend,” added Dr. Venus Patti, ’15, a member of the Student Committee for Strategic Planning. “He said that when you’re trying to get people to follow an idea, don’t try to sell them something; inspire them instead. Don’t pitch an idea. Implement it and people will follow.”

Something else Dean Bertolami said also resonated deeply with the students. “People may forget what you say,” Billy Kwon, ’17, recalls the Dean emphasizing, “but they will not forget how you make them feel.”

Dr. Stephanie Karapetian, ’15, came to the retreat following a yearlong honors elective in interprofessional education, which ignited her potential and desire for leadership by expanding her vision of future dentists as leaders in interprofessional health care.
“The year that Dr. Cheryline Pezzullo, ’15, and I took the course,” says Stephanie, “we developed a strong focus on public health. That course motivated me to create the position of chair of Pediatric Public Health for the Pediatric Club, while also serving as community service co-chair of the student-led Aesthetics Society, and I’m now considering getting an MPH degree. Participating in the retreat reinforced and strengthened my belief that we, as future dentists, can bring about the changes we want to see in the profession.”

The retreat offered lectures, interactive workshops, and group activities to help the students learn about five key areas that are integral to leadership: team building, communication and collaboration, ethics and professionalism, self-awareness and personal strengths, and problem solving and critical thinking.

Each student took a Myers-Briggs personality assessment as part of a three-hour interactive workshop led by Dr. Steve Hubbard, who is both director of student affairs at the NYU School of Medicine and a professor of leadership and student development in the Higher Education Administration program at NYU’s Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development. The assessment aimed to motivate students to think about their individual communication styles as well as their preferred leadership styles. As Maya Ardon, associate director for student life and leadership, put it, “Sometimes the things we are uncomfortable doing, other people love. We complement each other in that way. Setting aside time to see what people’s strengths and weaknesses are is something you can translate into any environment.”

A presentation by Dean Ripkey on “Leadership in Theory and Practice” included various theoretical frameworks for understanding the concept of leadership plus strategies for putting those concepts into action. Students also completed an exercise using a “leadership grid” to assess their individual leadership styles and identify how to adapt their natural leadership styles to be most effective in meeting the demands of different situations and contexts.

Moira Loten, vice president for professional care at
Colgate-Palmolive, represented the company with a presentation entitled “Colgate-Palmolive: A Culture Based on Shared Values of Caring, Teamwork, and Collaboration to Drive Performance,” which focused on how leaders can cultivate and reinforce a positive, professional, and ethical work environment based on the principles of success utilized by Colgate-Palmolive worldwide.

The retreat included an Alumni Leadership Panel, which featured Drs. Marjan Moghadam, ’02, Gerald Curatola, ’83, Daniel Rubinshtein, ’13, and Alexis Cohen, ’12. Spanning the generations from recent graduates to seasoned professionals who had all been in student leadership roles while at NYUCD, the panel reinforced the idea of thinking intentionally about one’s role as a leader.

On Sunday morning the students awoke to face a day of “low ropes” interactive team challenges. One of these exercises, organized by True North Team Building, included a 7-foot-high, 10-foot-wide structure made of bungee cord to look like a spider web. The objective was to cross from one side of the spider web to the other without touching the web. Creative thinking, trust, communication, and teamwork were essential as students worked together to help each other through the openings in the spider web in order to complete the team challenge.

NEW STUDENT LEADERSHIP TRACK LAUNCHED

As a result of the success of the retreat, the Office of Student Affairs and Academic Support Services has launched an initiative focused on providing all interested DDS students with intensive leadership training through a series of interactive workshops offered throughout the academic year. This is the Student Leadership Track, which culminates in an opportunity for students to apply to participate in the three-day, off-site Leadership Retreat focused on advanced leadership theory and application. This leadership-intensive program prepares dental students with knowledge and practical skills to be effective leaders in any context within both the dental profession and the larger community.

“The only thing I would change for the next retreat,” says the surf-loving Simon, “is to hold it at the beach.”

“Dean Bertolami set the tone for the entire weekend,” says Dr. Venus Patti, ’15. “He said that when you’re trying to get people to follow an idea, don’t try to sell them something; inspire them instead. Don’t pitch an idea. Implement it and people will follow.”
Recruiting the BEST

**DR. JOHN McDEVITT**, a pioneer in the development of “programmable bio-nano-chip” technologies, has been named chairman of the Department of Biomaterials. Dr. McDevitt’s expertise is in translating essential bioscience discoveries into real-world clinical practice.

Dr. McDevitt’s research expertise, coupled with his entrepreneurial approach, make him uniquely well qualified to lead the Department of Biomaterials in developing interdisciplinary, synergistic partnerships among investigators and educators at NYUCD, the College of Nursing, and NYU’s Polytechnic Bioengineering Institute, all of which are housed in NYU’s newly opened, interprofessional facility at 433 First Avenue. (See related story on p. 88.)

**DR. EDUARDO D. RODRIGUEZ**, chair of the Department of Plastic Surgery, director of the Institute of Reconstructive Plastic Surgery, and the Helen L. Kimmel Professor of Reconstructive Plastic Surgery at the NYU Langone Medical Center, has been appointed clinical professor of oral and maxillofacial surgery. In 2012, Dr. Rodriguez, a 1992 graduate of NYUCD, made medical history by leading a groundbreaking 36-hour surgery in an unprecedented total facial reconstruction of a patient who had lost much of his face during a shotgun accident.
DR. BRADLEY E. AOUIZERAT, formerly a professor of physiological nursing at the University of California San Francisco, has been appointed professor of oral and maxillofacial surgery. Dr. Aouizerat earned his BS and PhD degrees in microbiology with an emphasis on molecular epidemiology from the University of California Los Angeles, and a master’s degree in clinical research from the University of California San Francisco.

DR. QIAN CHEN has been appointed clinical assistant professor of oral and maxillofacial surgery. Dr. Chen holds a DDS degree from Wuhan University in China; a PhD in oral biology, cell biology, and biophysics from the University of Missouri-Kansas City; and a DMD from the Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine.

MS. HANNAH COAKLEY has been appointed assistant director of global outreach. Ms. Coakley was formerly coordinator of the Food Justice Program at the Children’s Aid Society. She holds a bachelor’s degree in metropolitan studies from NYU and an MS in public health from Johns Hopkins University.

DR. ANNA DI GREGORIO, formerly an associate professor of cell and developmental biology at Weill Cornell Medical College, has been appointed associate professor of basic science and craniofacial biology. She holds BS and MS degrees in biology, as well as a PhD in cell and molecular biology and pathology from the University of Naples Federico II in Italy.

DR. NILOUFAR AMINTAVAKOLI has been appointed clinical assistant professor of oral and maxillofacial pathology, radiology and medicine. Dr. Amintavakoli holds a DDS degree from the Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences and Health Services in Tehran, Iran, and an MS degree in oral and maxillofacial radiology from the University of Toronto.
DR. SERENA KASSAM has been appointed director of the predoctoral program in pediatric dentistry and clinical assistant professor of pediatric dentistry. Dr. Kassam earned her DMD degree from Tufts University School of Dental Medicine, where she also served as a clinical assistant professor of pediatric dentistry prior to joining NYU.

DR. RONALD KOSINSKI, formerly chief of pediatric dental medicine at Long Island Jewish Medical Center, has been appointed a clinical associate professor of pediatric dentistry.

DR. ARTHUR KUBIKIAN has been appointed a clinical assistant professor of endodontics. Dr. Kubikian has had a part-time appointment in endodontics at NYUCD for the past 25 years.

DR. JEANNE M. NERVINA, formerly adjunct assistant professor of orthodontics and pediatric dentistry at the University of Michigan School of Dentistry, has been appointed assistant professor of orthodontics. Dr. Nervina holds an MS degree in zoology and physiology from the University of Wyoming, and DMD and PhD degrees in biomedical sciences/developmental biology from the University of Connecticut School of Dental Medicine and the University of Connecticut, respectively.

DR. EVGENY PAVLOV, formerly an assistant professor in the Department of Physiology and Biophysics, Faculty of Medicine at Dalhousie University, Canada, has been appointed assistant professor of basic science and craniofacial biology. Dr. Pavlov earned an MSc in biophysics from Moscow State University, and a PhD in biophysics from the Institute of Theoretical and Experimental Biophysics of the Russian Academy of Sciences.
DR. JOHN STRANGE has been appointed clinical instructor of cariology and comprehensive care. Prior to joining NYU, Dr. Strange was a lecturer, Faculty of Dentistry, at The University of Sydney, Australia.

DR. TAKANORI SUZUKI has been appointed clinical assistant professor of periodontology and implant dentistry. Prior to joining NYU, Dr. Suzuki was an assistant professor of dentistry at The Nippon Dental University in Japan.

DR. VIVIAN A. B. WASMUHT-PERRoud has been appointed clinical assistant professor of oral and maxillofacial surgery. Dr. Wasmuht-Perroud earned her DMD degree at the University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine.

DR. YUNG CHENG PAUL YU, formerly a private practitioner in Rome, Italy, has been appointed a visiting assistant professor of periodontology and implant dentistry. Dr. Yu holds a DDS degree from the Universita La Sapienza in Rome.

MS. MEGAN ZAKRZEWSKI, formerly a communications specialist at Gill St. Bernard’s School in Gladstone, New Jersey, has been appointed assistant director of communications and public affairs. Ms. Zakrzewski holds a bachelor’s degree in journalism from Rider University in Lawrenceville, New Jersey.
Promoting Our Own

**MS. ERIN BRENT**, formerly senior director for financial planning, budget, and strategic initiatives, has been promoted to assistant dean for financial planning, budget, and strategic initiatives.

**MR. STEVEN KAHN**, formerly senior director of business support systems and research administration, has been promoted to assistant dean for finance and business operations.

**MR. JOHN MCINTOSH**, formerly senior director for clinical administration and revenue cycle management, has been promoted to assistant dean for clinical administration and revenue cycle management.
**DR. EUGENIA MEJIA,** formerly senior director of admissions, has been promoted to assistant dean for admissions and enrollment management.

**MS. JULIA MURPHY,** formerly senior director of human resources and faculty services, has been promoted to assistant dean for human resources and faculty services.

**DR. CHERYL M. WESTPHAL THEILE,** formerly clinical associate professor of dental hygiene, has been promoted to clinical professor of dental hygiene. She is also assistant dean for Allied Health Programs.
MS. SHIRLEY S. BIRENZ formerly a clinical instructor of Dental Hygiene, has been promoted to clinical assistant professor of dental hygiene.

DR. ALI ALPER COMUT, formerly clinical assistant professor of prosthodontics, has been promoted to clinical associate professor of prosthodontics.

DR. RONALD G. CRAIG, formerly associate professor of basic science and craniofacial biology, has been promoted to professor of basic science and craniofacial biology.

DR. ELENA CUNNINGHAM, formerly adjunct associate professor of basic science and craniofacial biology, has been promoted to clinical associate professor of basic science and craniofacial biology.
**DR. BIANCA A. DEARING**, formerly an adjunct assistant professor of epidemiology and health promotion, has been promoted to research scientist in the Department of Epidemiology and Health Promotion. Dr. Dearing is receiving funding from the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR) in support of her PhD degree in epidemiology.

**DR. MOREY J. GENDLER**, formerly clinical assistant professor of cariology and comprehensive care, has been promoted to clinical associate professor of cariology and comprehensive care.

**DR. DAVID H. HERSHKOWITZ**, formerly clinical assistant professor of cariology and comprehensive care, has been promoted to clinical associate professor of cariology and comprehensive care.

**DR. YVONNE DE PAIVA BUISCHI**, previously a senior research scientist in the Ashman Department of Periodontology and Implant Dentistry, has been promoted to clinical associate professor of periodontology and implant dentistry.
MS. LORILEI KIRBY, formerly an adjunct clinical assistant professor of dental hygiene, has been promoted to clinical assistant professor of dental hygiene.

DR. ARTHUR D. GOREN, formerly a part-time clinical associate professor of cariology and comprehensive care, has been promoted to clinical professor of cariology and comprehensive care.

DR. ISMAEL EL KHOULY CASTILLA, clinical assistant professor of oral and maxillofacial surgery, has been promoted to associate director of periodontology and implant dentistry in the Bluestone Center for Clinical Research.

DR. MARC A. HENSCHEL, formerly a part-time clinical assistant professor of oral and maxillofacial pathology, radiology and medicine, has been promoted to full-time clinical assistant professor of oral and maxillofacial pathology, radiology and medicine.
DR. RONALD I. MAITLAND, formerly clinical assistant professor of cariology and comprehensive care, has been promoted to clinical associate professor of cariology and comprehensive care.

DR. ELLEN LEE, formerly a clinical instructor of cariology and comprehensive care, has been promoted to clinical assistant professor of cariology and comprehensive care.

DR. MARIA RODRIGUEZ CARDENAS, formerly a part-time clinical instructor in the Department of Cariology and Comprehensive Care, has been promoted to clinical instructor of cariology and comprehensive care.
DR. RICHARD D. TRUSHKOWSKY, formerly a part-time clinical associate professor of cariology and comprehensive care, has been promoted to part-time clinical professor of cariology and comprehensive care.

DR. RAID SADDA, formerly clinical assistant professor of oral and maxillofacial surgery, has been promoted to clinical associate professor of oral and maxillofacial surgery.

DR. YI YE, assistant professor of oral and maxillofacial surgery, has been appointed associate director of clinical research operations for the Bluestone Center for Clinical Research.
NYUCD Extends a Warm Welcome to Its Newest Part-time Faculty

Department of Basic Science and Craniofacial Biology
Dr. Eric P. Chang, adjunct instructor
Dr. Nadine Diwarsi, adjunct assistant professor
Dr. John Papadopoulos, adjunct instructor

Department of Cariology and Comprehensive Care
Dr. Jane P. Bear-Lehman, adjunct associate professor
Dr. Ernesto Bonaparte, clinical instructor
Dr. Jehyun David Chong, clinical instructor
Dr. Stephanie Demas-Prassos, clinical instructor
Dr. Michael Paul Gulizio, clinical instructor
Dr. Amar Kosaraju, clinical instructor
Dr. Howard J. Kriegsman, clinical instructor
Dr. Andi Jean Miro, clinical instructor
Dr. Joseph R. Morris, clinical instructor
Dr. Frederic I. Nelson, clinical instructor
Dr. Katayoon Noroozi-Leibowitz, clinical instructor
Dr. Maria Elena Ramos, clinical instructor
Dr. Melissa Whitney Rodgers, clinical instructor
Dr. Alex Shalman, clinical instructor
Dr. Ashok K. Vaid, clinical instructor
Dr. Lawrence J. Weiss, clinical instructor

Dental Hygiene Program
Ms. Emina Becirovic, adjunct instructor
Ms. Almas Bhatti, clinical instructor
Ms. Aleksandra J. Czaplinska, clinical instructor
Ms. Ashley C. Grill, clinical assistant professor
Ms. Kristin M. Hofer, clinical instructor
Ms. Frederika Ashley Leis, clinical instructor
Ms. Ruth Sofia. Marsiliani, clinical instructor
Ms. Leah Pride, adjunct instructor
Ms. Shubha Sarode, lecturer
Ms. Esther Tingue, clinical instructor

Department of Endodontics
Dr. Joshua M. Chubak, clinical assistant professor
Dr. David P. Jacobson, clinical assistant professor

Department of Epidemiology and Health Promotion
Dr. Azadeh Ahmadi-Ardakani, adjunct assistant professor
Dr. Nia Aitaoto, adjunct assistant professor
Dr. Mohammed El-Habib Benzian, adjunct professor
Dr. Cherish Im, adjunct assistant professor
Dr. Rae Mei-Ling Isaacs, adjunct instructor

Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology, Radiology and Medicine
Dr. Simon Akerman, adjunct associate professor
Dr. Susan A. Friedman, clinical assistant professor

Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery
Dr. Sabine Girod, adjunct professor

Department of Orthodontics
Dr. Robert L. Sanford, clinical assistant professor

Department of Pediatric Dentistry
Dr. Michelle F. Goldstein, clinical assistant professor
Dr. Nicholas S. Katchen, clinical assistant professor
Dr. Craig A. Lustman, clinical assistant professor
Dr. Dushyanthan Nithiyanthasothoy, clinical instructor
Dr. Sheena Singh, clinical assistant professor

Department of Periodontology and Implant Dentistry
Dr. Zahra Bagheri, clinical assistant professor
Dr. Yiselle Z. Castillo, clinical assistant professor
Dr. Flaviu C. Dunca, clinical assistant professor
Dr. Bita A. Farhoumand, clinical assistant professor
Dr. Leonard Garfinkel, clinical assistant professor
Dr. Gregory K. Kazandjian, clinical assistant professor

Department of Prosthodontics
Dr. Sharvari Tejas Karande, clinical assistant professor
Dr. Zachary Papadakis, clinical assistant professor
Dr. Giacomo Romano, adjunct instructor

Congratulations also to:

**DR. FREDERICK A. CURRO**, formerly a full-time clinical professor of oral and maxillofacial pathology, radiology and medicine, has been appointed a part-time clinical professor of oral and maxillofacial pathology, radiology and medicine.

**DR. ROGER N. WARREN**, formerly a part-time clinical assistant professor of periodontology and implant dentistry, on being promoted to part-time clinical associate professor of periodontology and implant dentistry.

**CORRECTION: DR. RODRIGO S. LACRUZ** was incorrectly listed as a tenured professor of basic science and craniofacial biology in the Spring 2014 issue of *Global Health Nexus*. He is a tenure-track assistant professor of basic science and craniofacial biology.
Granada, Nicaragua: September 20–27

The NYUCD-Henry Schein Cares Global Student Outreach Program was in Granada, Nicaragua, from September 20–27, 2014, to provide free dental care to children and adults at Casa de los Tres Mundos, a large event space donated to the group. This trip marked NYUCD’s seventh outreach to Nicaragua, and the second to the small colonial city of Granada. The team estimates that it saw approximately 1,000 patients during the course of the week, many of whom were schoolchildren from Colegio San Antonio, a neighboring primary school with which NYUCD partnered.
September 20–27, 2014, Granada, Nicaragua
Outreach Participants

Faculty/Staff/Administrators
Dr. Stuart Hirsch – Program Director
Ms. Rachel Hill – Director, Global Outreach & International Initiatives
Dr. Lena Al-Sabban – Clinical Instructor, Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery
Dr. Yakir Arteaga – Part-time Instructor, Cariology & Comprehensive Care
Ms. Danielle Becker – Program Administrator, Global Outreach
Dr. Jordan Buzzell – Part-time Clinical Assistant Professor, Pediatric Dentistry
Dr. Aura Caldera – Part-time Clinical Instructor, Pediatric Dentistry
Dr. Courtney Chinn – Clinical Associate Professor, Pediatric Dentistry
Ms. Alison Kurtz – Assistant Director, Global Outreach
Dr. Aaron Soeprono – Academic Director/clinical Assistant Professor, Cariology & Comprehensive Care
Dr. James Toppin – Clinical Assistant Professor, Oral & Maxillofacial Pathology, Radiology & Medicine
Mr. Christopher Tung – Research Administrator, Global Outreach
Dr. Mark Wolff – Associate Dean, Predoctoral Clinical Education; Professor/Chairperson, Cariology & Comprehensive Care

Postgraduate Students
Dr. Chayne Coston, Endodontics
Dr. Ali Manesh, Endodontics
Dr. Dontra Scott, Endodontics/Teaching Fellow
Dr. Jessica Kravit, Pediatric Dentistry
Dr. Lela Matthes, Pediatric Dentistry/Teaching Fellow
Dr. Scott Michels, Pediatric Dentistry

International Program Students
Dr. MESHAL ALSHAMARI, Comprehensive Dentistry
Dr. Neethi Dalvi, Comprehensive Dentistry
Dr. Maria Saiti, Comprehensive Dentistry
Dr. Davide Cuocolo, Endodontics
Dr. Yi Ju “Jessie” Tsai, Pediatric Dentistry

Class of 2015
Dr. Yun Cho
Dr. Glacendy Espinosa
Dr. Kyuan Kim
Dr. Sihyun Park
Dr. Seung Yoon

Class of 2016
Ms. Monica Babilonia
Ms. Chrestene Fam
Ms. Lauren Meyers
Ms. Aarti Patel
Ms. Justine Schepis
For the fourth time since 2013, the NYUCD Henry Schein Cares Global Student Outreach Program traveled to Poughkeepsie, New York, to provide oral health instruction and comprehensive care to approximately 500 Poughkeepsie City School District students at two temporary treatment centers set up at Governor Clinton Elementary School and the Early Learning Center in Poughkeepsie.

“I was always aware of the need for dental care globally,” says first-year pediatric resident Dr. Stephanie Karapetian, ’15, who will begin her pediatric residency training at NYUCD in September. “But my time in Poughkeepsie showed me what a great need there is right at our front door.”

NYUCD’s biannual outreach to Poughkeepsie is organized through a partnership between the NYUCD-Henry Schein Cares Global Student Outreach Program and the New York State Department of Health, Poughkeepsie City School District, and Vassar Brothers Medical Center. This year, the program welcomed the Dyson Foundation as a new partner.
October 13-17, 2014, Poughkeepsie, New York
Outreach Participants

Faculty/Staff/Administrators
Dr. Azadeh Ahmadi-Ardakani – Adjunct Assistant Professor, Epidemiology & Health Promotion
Ms. Danielle Becker – Program Administrator, Global Outreach
Ms. Ashlie Butler – Executive Assistant to the Vice Dean, Global Outreach
Dr. Aura Caldera – Part-time Clinical Instructor, Pediatric Dentistry
Dr. Courtney Chinn – Clinical Associate Professor, Pediatric Dentistry
Dr. Cherish Im – Adjunct Assistant Professor, Epidemiology & Health Promotion
Dr. Darya Caldera – Clinical Instructor, Pediatric Dentistry
Dr. Ronald Kosinski – Clinical Associate Professor, Pediatric Dentistry
Ms. Alison Kurtz – Assistant Director, Global Outreach
Dr. Aneta Mejia – Part-time Clinical Instructor, Cariology & Comprehensive Care
Dr. James Toppin – Clinical Assistant Professor, Oral & Maxillofacial Pathology, Radiology & Medicine
Mr. Christopher Tung – Research Administrator, Global Outreach

Postgraduate Students
Dr. Rex Chuang, Pediatric Dentistry
Dr. Geena Russo, Pediatric Dentistry
Dr. Stephanie Serpa, Pediatric Dentistry

Class of 2015
Dr. Roshni Dhuva
Dr. Christina Diep
Dr. Yoomi Heo

Class of 2016
Ms. Maura Robinson
Mr. Harshleen Sidhu

Dental Hygiene Students
Ms. Deanna Aquallo
Ms. Linda Benson
Ms. Malekha Goho
Mr. R.J Tanega

June 7-13, 2015, Poughkeepsie, New York
Outreach Participants

Faculty/Staff/Administrators
Ms. Rachel Hill – Director, Global Outreach & International Initiatives
Ms. Danielle Becker – Program Administrator, Global Outreach
Ms. Ashlie Butler – Executive Assistant to the Vice Dean, Global Outreach
Dr. Courtney Chinn – Clinical Associate Professor, Pediatric Dentistry
Ms. Hannah Coakley – Assistant Director, Global Outreach
Dr. Yasmi Crystal – Part-time Clinical Associate Professor, Pediatric Dentistry
Dr. Nancy Dougherty – Part-time Clinical Associate Professor, Pediatric Dentistry
Dr. Michelle Goldstein – Part-time Clinical Assistant Professor, Pediatric Dentistry
Dr. Serena Kassam – Academic Director/Clinical Assistant Professor, Pediatric Dentistry
Mr. Ben Lin – Global Outreach Intern
Dr. Sheena Singh – Part-time Clinical Assistant Professor, Pediatric Dentistry
Dr. Amy Truesdale – Clinical Assistant Professor, Pediatric Dentistry
Mr. Christopher Tung – Research Administrator, Global Outreach

Postgraduate Students
Dr. Catherine Fillmore, Pediatric Dentistry
Dr. Lina Paek, Pediatric Dentistry
Dr. Krystle Rapisura, Pediatric Dentistry
Dr. Geena Russo, Pediatric Dentistry

Class of 2015
Dr. Steven Dias
Dr. Michael Hatton
Dr. Gregory Izzo
Dr. Maura Robinson
Dr. Sharona Shimunova
Dr. Harshleen Sidhu

Dental Hygiene Students
Mr. William Diaz
Ms. Catherine Hotaling
Ms. Mayra Wells
Kathmandu, Nepal: October 30–November 9

From October 20 to November 9, 2014, an NYUCD outreach team provided care for more than 1,000 children and adults at the Srongtsen Bhrikuti Boarding High School in Kathmandu, Nepal, and provided preventive education for an additional 700 children and their teachers at the school. This marks NYUCD’s second outreach to Kathmandu and was made possible by the Henry Schein Cares Foundation, along with the Seven Summits Foundation, the Tibet Fund, the Snow Lion Foundation, and the Himalayan Society for Youth and Women Empowerment.
How You Can Help the Victims of the Earthquake in Kathmandu, Nepal

The Tibet Fund, which established the Srongtsen Bhrikuti High School in Kathmandu more than 30 years ago, is working with NYUCD’s other partners in outreach to Kathmandu to rebuild and repair the Srongtsen School, which was one of many facilities damaged by the 7.8 magnitude earthquake that struck Kathmandu in April, claiming thousands of lives, injuring more than 14,000 people, and destroying homes and institutions, including much of the Srongtsen School. A contribution to the Tibet Fund ensures that resources will reach those most affected by the earthquake.
NYUCD’s outreach to the industrial tuna-fishing town of Manta, Ecuador, began in 2012, when Dr. Maria Acebo, a native of Manta, NYUCD graduate, and general practitioner in Queens, New York, identified a potential local partner for NYUCD in the Ecuadorian-American Chamber of Commerce of Miami. Dr. Acebo catalyzed a partnership between NYUCD and the Chamber of Commerce and its president, Juan José Malo, which enabled NYUCD to bring its NYUCD-Henry Schein Cares Global Student Outreach Program to the 200,000-person town.

The Chamber of Commerce arranged for lodging, meals, and group transportation. This year, the program provided oral health instruction and care to approximately 800 children and adults at the Pedro Fermín Cevallos School.

“The biggest impact was on prevention by reducing the caries index of the children treated,” says Dr. Acebo, who lauded the outreach program team members for their commitment, compassion, and dedication.
December 6–13, 2014, Manta, Ecuador

Outreach Participants

Faculty/Staff/Administrators
Dr. Stuart Hirsch – Program Director
Ms. Rachel Hill – Director, Global Outreach & International Initiatives
Dr. Maria Acebo – General Dentistry
Ms. Danielle Becker – Program Administrator, Global Outreach
Dr. Gerald Klaczany – Educational Coordinator II / Clinical Associate Professor, Cariology & Comprehensive Care
Dr. Eugenia Mejia – Assistant Dean, Admissions & Enrollment Management/Part-time Adjunct Instructor, Cariology & Comprehensive Care
Dr. Brendan O’Connor – Clinical Assistant Professor, Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery
Dr. Todd Ross – Part-time Clinical Assistant Professor, Cariology & Comprehensive Care
Mr. Christopher Tung – Research Administrator, Global Outreach

Postgraduate Students
Dr. Afshin Badii, Endodontics
Dr. Wael Owelty, Endodontics/Teaching Fellow
Dr. Kaveh Pajouhan, Endodontics
Dr. Mabel Coro, Pediatric Dentistry/Teaching Fellow
Dr. Catherine Fillmore, Pediatric Dentistry
Dr. Trey Perez, Pediatric Dentistry
Dr. Michael Wahl, Pediatric Dentistry/Teaching Fellow
Dr. Zhemeng Wang, Pediatric Dentistry/Teaching Fellow

International Program Students
Dr. Saria Abdullah, Comprehensive Dentistry
Dr. Claire Killisli, Comprehensive Dentistry
Dr. Celina Maniquis, Comprehensive Dentistry
Dr. Pierre Wohlgeemuth, Endodontics
Dr. Nyema Abu-Al Saud, Pediatric Dentistry

Class of 2015
Dr. Cheryline Pezzullo – Student Leader
Dr. Marcela Cardona
Dr. Ashley Dubois
Dr. Michele Equinda
Dr. Boshra Irvani
Dr. Maria Jalloh
Dr. Gautam Matta
Dr. Kavita Patel
Dr. Nikita Vakil

Class of 2016
Ms. Mona Herold
Ms. Michelle Perna

Dental Hygiene Students
Ms. Valerie Conte
Ms. Zoila Perez
La Preciosita, Mexico: March 21–28

A line quickly began to form as townspeople from La Preciosita in southeast Mexico gathered to welcome the NYUCD-Henry Schein Cares Global Student Outreach Program team. For the fourth consecutive year, villagers in La Preciosita offered lodging, meals, and friendship to the NYUCD team, whose 31 outreach program participants provided oral health education and care to children and adults at the local primary school, El Escuela Rural Federal Vincente Guerrero.

Since its initial visit to La Preciosita, in 2012, NYUCD has recorded a nearly 15 percent decrease in the prevalence of tooth decay among the area’s children. Next year, NYUCD will expand its outreach in Mexico approximately two hours northwest to the Puebla town of Ciudad Serdán, while continuing to provide toothbrushes, fluoride, and dental floss to townspeople in La Preciosita. As part of its new outreach, NYUCD will provide care for children and adults at El Centro Integrador de Servicios (CIS), a new government-built healthcare facility in Chalchicomula de Sesma, Mexico.
March 21–28, 2015, La Preciosa, Mexico
Outreach Participants

Faculty/Staff/Administrators
Dr. Stuart Hirsh – Program Director
Ms. Rachel Hill – Director, Global Outreach & International Initiatives
Ms. Danielle Becker – Program Administrator, Global Outreach
Ms. Ashlie Butler – Executive Assistant to the Vice Dean, Global Outreach
Ms. Hannah Coakley – Assistant Director, Global Outreach
Mr. Ben Lin – Global Outreach Intern
Ms. Sarah Linell – Global Outreach Intern
Dr. Aneta Mejia – Part-time Clinical Instructor, Cariology & Comprehensive Care
Mr. Christopher Tung – Research Administrator, Global Outreach

Postgraduate Students
Dr. Afshin Badii, Endodontics/Teaching Fellow
Dr. Naghmeh Latifi, Endodontics
Dr. Ray Cheng, Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery/Teaching Fellow
Dr. Rose Amable, Pediatric Dentistry
Dr. Heather Burns, Pediatric Dentistry
Dr. Priyanka Ganesh, Pediatric Dentistry/Teaching Fellow
Dr. Hans Hsu, Pediatric Dentistry/Teaching Fellow
Dr. Brian Rooney, Pediatric Dentistry/Teaching Fellow
Dr. Negar Sadeghein, Pediatric Dentistry

International Program Students
Dr. Abdullah Alfarhan, Comprehensive Dentistry
Dr. Salim Alqarni, Comprehensive Dentistry
Dr. Saleh Almuhilis, Comprehensive Dentistry

Class of 2015
Dr. Gunveen Chawla
Dr. Lawrence Mak
Dr. Neeti Sharma
Dr. James Yang

Class of 2016
Mr. Jarrod Golberg
Ms. Nassim Kohly
Ms. Jamie Lee
Mr. Evan Matthyssse
Ms. Erin Reed
Mr. Alexander Sy
In mid-April, the NYUCD-Henry Schein Cares Global Student Outreach Program traveled to Machias, Maine, to provide oral health education and care to people living in rural Washington County, a 3,200-square-mile location with approximately 8,000 people served by only 10 dentists.

Dr. Andrew Spielman, associate dean for academic affairs and a seven-time Machias outreach program participant, notes an increased appreciation from patients with each new visit. "We’ve essentially become their dentists, as many of these individuals have no alternative to what we provide," he says. "It’s amazing how they go out of their way to show gratitude for our services."

A new service provided during the visit was the Patient Care Advocate Program. Conducted in partnership with Sunrise Opportunities, the program assists individuals with on-site medical care program enrollment. Other partners in addition to Sunrise Opportunities who help to make the program a success are the Henry Schein Cares Foundation, the Washington County Children’s Program, the Washington Hancock Community Agency, New England Delta Dental, Child and Family Opportunities, and the Rose M. Gaffney Elementary School.
April 12-18, 2015, Machias, Maine
Outreach Participants

Faculty/Staff/Administrators
Dr. Stuart Hirsch – Program Director
Ms. Rachel Hill – Director, Global Outreach & International Initiatives
Ms. Maya Ardon – Associate Director, Student Life & Leadership Initiatives
Ms. Danielle Becker – Program Administrator, Global Outreach
Ms. Hannah Coakley – Assistant Director, Global Outreach
Ms. Jill Fernandez – Clinical Associate Professor, Pediatric Dentistry
Dr. Robert Glickman – Professor/Chairperson, Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery
Dr. Ramin Kashani – Clinical Assistant Professor, Pediatric Dentistry
Dr. Martine Mandracchia – Clinical Associate Professor/Academic Director, Cariology & Comprehensive Care
Dr. Paul Rosenberg – Professor, Endodontics
Dr. Andrew Schenkel – Educational Coordinator II/Clinical Assistant Professor, Cariology & Comprehensive Care
Dr. Andrew Spielman – Associate Dean, Academic Affairs/Professor, Basic Science & Craniofacial Biology
Mr. Christopher Tung – Research Administrator, Global Outreach

Postgraduate Students
Dr. Bobby Bakshoudeh, Endodontics
Dr. Robert Hochberg, Endodontics
Dr. Laila Hubbi, Pediatric Dentistry
Dr. Danielle Lombardi, Pediatric Dentistry
Dr. Geena Russo, Pediatric Dentistry
Dr. Stephanie Serpa, Pediatric Dentistry

Class of 2015
Dr. Samantha Wolff – Student Leader
Dr. Anamevys Alonso
Dr. Tess Alonso
Dr. Mehran Khanbabapour
Dr. Vincent Khang
Dr. Mark Makiling
Dr. Kale McMillan
Dr. Farzan Mojgani
Dr. Anna Pietrantoni
Dr. Sandy Wissa

Class of 2016
Ms. Blair Chizner
Mr. Jared Curtin
Ms. Kathy Naco

Dental Hygiene Students
Ms. Linda Benson
Ms. Curlisha Lord
Class of 2016 Students Sponsor Child at School in Kathmandu

As participants in NYUCD’s fall 2014 outreach to Kathmandu, Nepal, Class of 2016 students Sheryl Lee and Brett Sterling were so moved by their experience at the outreach site, Srongtsen Bhrikuti Boarding High School in Boudha, that they decided they wanted to continue to help in some way after they left. So they decided to sponsor a student at the school, Laxmi Sherpa, whom the vice principal identified as being the “neediest” student.

Laxmi Sherpa is seven years old. Her father is 70 years old and ill. Her mother cares for her father, leaving no time for work outside the home. Sponsorship for one student at the boarding school is $460 annually, and includes room, board, and education. To raise funds to sponsor Laxmi, Sheryl and Brett held a bake sale at NYUCD, raising more than $600.

To express her appreciation, Laxmi wrote them the letter shown on this page.
In fall 2014, NYUCD welcomed 109 students from 34 countries at a gala reception in their honor held at the Manhattan Penthouse in New York City.

These programs, designed for international dentists who plan to practice outside the United States, include courses in all of the dental specialties plus two teaching and research fellowship programs: the Consortium for Translational Orthodontic Research (CTOR) and the Teaching in Dental Education (TIDE) fellowship.

Shown with Dean Bertolami at the welcoming reception are, from left: Dr. Jie Deng from China; Dr. Joo Young Nho from South Korea; Dr. Pornpan Hiranpradit from Thailand; and Dr. Abdullah Almansour from Saudi Arabia.
First CTOR Fellow from China Joins NYU

When Dr. Mani Alikhani, associate professor of orthodontics and director of the Consortium for Translational Orthodontic Research (CTOR), spoke at the Zhejiang University School of Medicine’s Dental School in fall 2013, there was an audience member who had flown 1,300 miles to hear him. Dr. Jie Deng, a specialist in the orthodontic treatment of malocclusion, traveled from China’s remote southwestern city of Kunming to attend. Dr. Alikhani was impressed with Dr. Deng’s research and aspirations and subsequently recruited her to become NYUCD’s first CTOR Fellow from mainland China.

Dr. Deng arrived at NYUCD in June 2014 for a one-year fellowship. She is particularly interested in the orthodontic treatment of obstructive sleep apnea, a topic on which she published an article in 2011 in the Hebei Medical University’s Journal of Modern Stomatology.

“My goal at NYUCD is to learn to do procedures such as inlays while continuing my research not only on sleep apnea but also on craniofacial suture remodeling, tooth movement, and gene therapy. In China I published an article based on mechanical tests performed on monkeys. We put micro implants in the zygomatic bone as anchors, and used these to retract the maxilla. The craniofacial sutures were moved as a result of the force of the retraction, and we showed how these sutures affected the entire skull. At NYUCD we perform these tests on rats or mice.”

Dr. Deng completed her dental degree at Hainan Medical College in the southeastern province of Hainan. After graduation she served as a general dentist in the Department of Oral Medicine at Guilin Medical College. Dr. Deng subsequently pursued specialty training in orthodontics at Kunming Medical University before accepting an appointment in orthodontics at the Stomatology Hospital affiliated with Kunming Medical University.

Dr. Deng is considering applying for a PhD program in biology. “I enjoy being an orthodontist, but I also really enjoy my time in the lab. If I pursue a PhD, my focus will remain on craniofacial suture remodeling,” she said. Her most recent article on craniofacial suture remodeling is based on experiments with rabbits, where micro implants were placed in the maxilla to retract the premaxilla. Entitled “Histomorphological Studies of Different Mechanical Forces on Remodeling of Premaxillary Suture and Zygomaticomaxillary Suture in Rabbits,” it has passed the peer review process and is awaiting publication in the Journal of Acta Medicinae Universitatis Scientiae et Technologiae Huazhong.
NYUCD Welcomes First CTOR Fellow from South Korea

For Dr. Joo Young Nho, it was a chance meeting at a conference in Seoul in November 2013 with Dr. Cristina Teixeira, associate professor and chair of the Department of Orthodontics and co-director of the Consortium for Translational Orthodontic Research (CTOR), that persuaded her that NYUCD was the place to continue her research on osteoporosis of the jaw. One year later Dr. Nho became the first South Korean to become a CTOR fellow.

“I began reading widely about the work CTOR researchers were doing—especially about the micro-perforation procedure Dr. Teixeira and her colleague Dr. Mani Alikhani, associate professor of orthodontics and director of CTOR, had pioneered, which reduces orthodontic treatment time by more than half. I realized that this technique could have a tremendous impact on a great number of people, both young and old. I decided to apply to become a CTOR Fellow knowing that the research it would support would allow me to make that kind of a difference in people’s lives.”

Dr. Nho’s research as a CTOR Fellow is directly linked to her original research interest in osteoporosis, which, whether due to aging or corticosteroid-induced, has been shown to affect orthodontic tooth movement. Dr. Nho believes the effects of orthodontic treatment on osteoporosis of the jaw are wide-ranging and is working with Dr. Alikhani on her research. “Today orthodontic treatment is not only for children, but it’s also for the elderly, with whom I would like to work. This is pretty groundbreaking,” she said.

Dr. Nho received her bachelor’s degree in chemistry from Yonsei University and her dental degree from Seoul National University before pursuing postdoctoral studies in orthodontics at Hangang Sacred Heart Hospital in Seoul. She also completed the Advanced General Dentistry Program conducted by the Korean Dental Association (KDA).

Although she had planned to stay in the United States for one year, Dr. Nho now plans to stay longer to continue her research. Ultimately she hopes to combine her research interests with her clinical expertise to treat the orthodontic needs of people in South America and Africa.

Dr. Joo Young Nho’s research as a CTOR Fellow is directly linked to her original research interest in osteoporosis, which, whether due to aging or corticosteroid-induced, has been shown to affect orthodontic tooth movement.
In the fall of 2014, Dr. Irene Kida-Minja, a lecturer in the Department of Restorative Dentistry at Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS) in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, began a four-month period as a visiting Fulbright scholar in the Department of Epidemiology and Health Promotion at the invitation of Dr. Ralph Katz, professor of epidemiology and health promotion.

Dr. Kida-Minja collaborated with Dr. Katz on a project focusing on the development of an evidence-based dentistry (EBD) curriculum that she will implement for dental students in Tanzania. As part of this collaboration, Dr. Kida-Minja worked under Dr. Katz’s guidance to acquire in-depth knowledge of all aspects of the Skills in Assessing the Professional Literature (SAPL) curriculum in the Department of Epidemiology and Health Promotion, which Dr. Katz developed, as well as of the broader EBD curriculum in use at NYUCD. Dr. Kida-Minja’s goal is to develop a comprehensive SAPL-EBD curriculum to be implemented at MUHAS.

“There has been a lot of activity surrounding issues relating to access to the scientific literature at MUHAS in recent years, making the implementation of the EBD curriculum relevant at this time,” says Dr. Kida-Minja. “Digital archives as well as basic books are lacking in Tanzania. There’s been a lot of effort to improve access to literature, library services, and the Internet, but it’s not as easy as in the West. We want our students to pursue best practices, which means they have to have skills in assessing the professional literature.”

Dr. Katz was introduced to Dr. Kida-Minja by Dr. Marion J. Bergman, director of healthcare projects for Miracle Corners of the World, a nonprofit organization dedicated to empowering youth around the world to become positive agents of change in their communities.

“There has been a lot of activity surrounding issues relating to access to the scientific literature at MUHAS in recent years, making the implementation of the EBD curriculum relevant at this time,” says Dr. Kida-Minja.
Last year, while on a trip to Tanzania, Dr. Bergman met Dr. Kida-Minja and learned that she was looking for someone to work with on EBD research.

“Marion knew of my work building connections to dental schools in Haiti since the 1980s and approached me through former Dean Michael Alfano to work with this scholar,” says Dr. Katz. Dr. Kida-Minja notes that “After a few discussions over Skype, Dr. Katz encouraged me to look for funds, which is how I came to apply for the Fulbright.”

Dr. Kida-Minja is the first Fulbright scholar from Africa to work with Dr. Katz on SAPL and EBD. During her time at NYUCD, Dr. Kida-Minja audited postgraduate courses in endodontics, orthodontics, pediatric dentistry, and prosthodontics, as well as courses taught by Dr. Katz on basic SAPL skills, and epidemiology and critical thinking. She also worked on epidemiologic study design elements which are relevant to the teaching of SAPL.

“It is my greatest hope that Dr. Kida-Minja will increase the skill levels of dentists in Tanzania so they can self-educate to keep up with the latest findings, prevention, care, and treatment of their patients, since those are the dentists working directly in the community,” says Dr. Katz.

Clinical Associate Professor of Pediatric Dentistry Jill Fernandez, and Clinical Professor of Pediatric Dentistry Dr. Neal G. Herman, joined the nonprofit organization Miracle Corners of the World (MCW) last summer on a dental outreach to residents of a remote village in southern Tanzania. Also joining the outreach were Dr. Alexis Cohen, ’12, and Dr. Clint Timmerman, ’07. During the two-week outreach, the team provided care for nearly 500 children and adults and trained six dental therapy students from the Mbeya Dental Therapy School.
A native of Perth, Australia, Dr. Nicola C. Partridge, professor and chair of NYUCD’s Department of Basic Science and Craniofacial Biology since 2009, is internationally recognized as an authority on molecular biology and bone and mineral research. Dr. Partridge received her PhD in biochemistry from the University of Western Australia and pursued postdoctoral studies in bone biology at the University of Melbourne, Repatriation General Hospital. Prior to joining NYUCD, Dr. Partridge served as professor and chair of the Department of Physiology and Biophysics at the UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, now the Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School. She is currently engaged in collaborative research with colleagues at Griffith University in Queensland, Australia, where she visited last summer as part of the collaboration.

Dr. Partridge studies the role of parathyroid hormone (PTH) action in bone and mineralized tissue. At Griffith University she is the principal investigator on a project with Dr. Nigel Morrison, associate professor in the School of Medical Science, and Dr. Mark Forwood, professor and chair of the Department of Anatomy. The project focuses on fracture healing by looking at chemokines, which act as chemoattractants to guide the migration of cells. “Her expertise,” says Dr. Forwood, “has expanded understanding of the innovative model of stress fracture, remodeling, and skeletal structure being used in the project.”

At NYUCD, Dr. Partridge is currently engaged in three additional major research projects. The first, funded by the NIH, looks at how repressor proteins in the nucleus of the cell prevent genes from being expressed and
prevent RNA from being synthesized. “Hyperparathyroidism and its attendant breakdown of bone can result if too much PTH is present,” she explains. “So this project looks at how these repressor proteins work to regulate gene expression in bone cells.”

A second project, in partnership with the drug manufacturer Eli Lilly, focuses on how PTH is being used to treat osteoporosis. “Since PTH is a peptide, or protein hormone, it must be injected daily to stimulate hormone promotion,” she explains. “Currently the only bone-forming drug on the market is manufactured by Eli Lilly, which is providing the drug to my lab for a clinical trial.” With the help of funding from NYU’s Clinical and Translational Science Institute (CTSI), she has been recruiting subjects for the clinical trial.

A third project is an ongoing collaboration with Orthofix, Inc., an orthopedic device company. Says Dr. Partridge: “Orthofix created a device consisting of two electric coils used for treating fractures, which are connected in the front and the back of the body for spine fractures. When turned on, the coils produce pulses of electricity that generate a magnetic field.” Dr. Partridge notes that through this project she has managed to culture human cells and treats them with pulsed electromagnetic fields to determine which genes are being regulated, and to determine the pathway of the magnetic field.

“All of these projects complement one another,” says Dr. Partridge, adding that they help to energize and inspire the strong research faculty—particularly in the area of bone biology—that she has assembled within the Department of Basic Science and Craniofacial Biology.

“International collaboration is essential in the current age of team research and big data,” she notes. “It is impossible for one research group to do everything today. International scientific collaboration also establishes great relationships across countries and between nationalities that promote cultural understanding.”
New Dentistry, Nursing, and Bioengineering Building Opens at 433 First Avenue

On January 1, 2015, NYU opened a 13-floor, 170,000-square-foot building at 433 First Avenue adjacent to the existing dental school buildings. The building expands space for the College of Dentistry; provides a new home for the College of Nursing; and creates a space for NYU’s emerging bioengineering program. The College of Dentistry occupies 32 percent of the building; the College of Nursing occupies approximately 50 percent; and the Bioengineering Institute occupies 18 percent.

433 First Avenue—which was designed by Kohn Pedersen Fox Associates and EYP Architecture and Engineering—is located in the heart of the NYU health sciences corridor in Manhattan. The building was designed specifically to stimulate interaction among dental, nursing, and bioengineering students, and to foster a new model of education, healthcare delivery, and scientific partnership among academic disciplines.
“Having a state-of-the-art, interprofessional building along the NYU health sciences corridor on First Avenue will create many opportunities for collaboration that will enhance our teaching, research, and service activities.”

Dean Bertolami
College of Dentistry highlights in the new building include a 3,000-square-foot Student Services and Admissions Suite. Located on the lobby level behind an etched glass wall, the suite contains a 32-seat reception area, a conference room that seats 12, interview rooms for NYUCD applicants that can also serve as multipurpose areas, and offices for Financial Aid, Student Services, Student Admissions, International Program Admissions, and Student Advisement.

Other College of Dentistry highlights in the new building include the entire second floor, consisting of three 127-seat lecture halls, an 80-seat lecture hall, and four smaller, multipurpose classrooms. The College of Dentistry also occupies the entire eighth floor, which houses the Department of Biomaterials research laboratory and offices for biomaterials faculty.

The shared floors are the main lobby; the third floor, which houses the 10,000-square-foot Student Learning Commons; the seventh floor, which is shared by the NYUCD Department of Epidemiology and Health Promotion and by nursing faculty and staff; and the eleventh floor, which features the Executive Conference Center Suite.

“This is a fantastic new building to advance healthcare and biomedical science,” said Dr. Robert Berne, NYU executive vice president for health. “By bringing these three healthcare leaders together under one roof, 433 First Avenue becomes not just an impressive addition to the NYU and New York City landscape, but also a shining example of that commitment. In classrooms, laboratories, offices, and a technology-rich learning commons, students and colleagues from across disciplines will come together to teach, to learn, and to explore exciting opportunities,” he continued.

“Having a state-of-the-art, interprofessional building along the NYU health sciences corridor on First Avenue will create many opportunities for collaboration that will enhance our teaching, research, and service activities,” said Dean Bertolami.

The building was officially dedicated on March 16, 2015.
Student Services and Admissions Suite

First floor entrance

Grand Staircase leading to second floor dental area, with classrooms and lecture halls
One of three new 127-seat dentistry lecture halls

One of four new multipurpose dentistry classrooms
Student Learning Commons

South side of Commons, with views of private study rooms

View of east wall, looking south, showing a range of seating options
“This is a fantastic new building to advance healthcare and biomedical science. By bringing these three healthcare leaders together under one roof, 433 First Avenue becomes not just an impressive addition to the NYU and New York City landscape, but also a shining example of that commitment. In classrooms, laboratories, offices, and a technology-rich learning commons, students and colleagues from across disciplines will come together to teach, to learn, and to explore exciting opportunities.”

Dr. Robert Berne
NYU Executive Vice President for Health
Advancing NYUCD’s Momentum:
The 11th Floor Executive Conference Center Suite

The Executive Conference Center Suite on the 11th floor of 433 First Avenue consists of two conference rooms: a larger conference room with seating for 50 and a smaller conference room with seating for 12; a reception area; and a pantry for catering support and staging. Opportunities are available to name the entire Conference Center Suite or one of its components. This premier space has already been used for meetings of the NYU Board of Trustees, the New York Academic Dental Centers, and other NYU units. It will be the site of the NYU Deans’ Retreat in fall 2015.

The larger conference room is situated at the corner of the building and features expansive views of midtown, the NYU health sciences corridor, and the East River. Both conference rooms and their adjacent reception area have views to the north of midtown and to the Empire State Building.
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The Grand Staircase connects the lobby to the large instructional spaces on the upper and lower floors of the new building at 433 First Avenue. The location of the staircase helps support NYC’s “active building initiative” — promoting physical activity and health in design.

The Grand Staircase is prominently located opposite the elevator bank in order to encourage use of stairs. Moving up the staircase from the main lobby, students arrive at the second floor breakout space for the eight dentistry classrooms on the floor, consisting of three 127-seat lecture halls, an 80-seat lecture hall, and four smaller, multipurpose classrooms.

We invite you to join us as we celebrate this collaboration in interprofessional education by linking your name to one of many opportunities in the extraordinary facility that is 433 First Avenue.

Our experienced and expert development staff looks forward to working with you to explore various gift options that will be both philanthropically gratifying to you and of great benefit to the NYU College of Dentistry.

Please contact Rita Startup at 212.998.9920 or at rita.startup@nyu.edu to learn about the range of naming opportunities available to you.

Thank you.
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Thank you.
Smigel Prize Presented to Dr. Galip Gurel

Dr. Galip Gurel, an internationally renowned aesthetic dentist, has received the 2014 Irwin Smigel Prize in Aesthetic Dentistry sponsored by the NYU College of Dentistry. The award was presented to Dr. Gurel at the 2014 annual session of the American Society for Dental Aesthetics.

Dr. Gurel, the founder of the Turkish Academy of Esthetic Dentistry and author of the best-selling book, *The Science and Art of Porcelain Laminate Veneers*, was selected in recognition of his significant contributions to the field of aesthetic dentistry.

NYUCD established the Smigel Prize in 2000 to recognize the pioneering achievements of Dr. Irwin Smigel, a graduate of NYUCD and the founder and president of the American Society for Dental Aesthetics, and to honor significant contributions to the field by others throughout the world.

The Smigel Prize carries with it a $5,000 stipend and an award designed by Calvin Klein.

“Dr. Galip Gurel’s selection to receive the Smigel Prize is a fitting tribute to the pivotal role he has played in advancing aesthetic dentistry education,” said Dean Bertolami. “Like the person for whom the prize is named, Dr. Gurel is devoted to continuing education in aesthetic dentistry as the basis for clinical excellence.”
NYU Creates Faculty of Health

Colleges of Dentistry, Global Public Health, and Nursing to be Linked in New Unit

In order to spur NYU’s efforts in dentistry, public health, nursing and other health areas, prompt innovative research collaborations, and strengthen teaching and research in the health field, NYU’s Board of Trustees has voted to create a new Faculty of Health, to create a College of Global Public Health, and to move the College of Nursing to full college status.

The Faculty of Health will be made up of the College of Dentistry, a new College of Global Public Health, and a newly stand-alone College of Nursing. The creation of the new Faculty of Health—which altogether will have over 360 faculty members, nearly 4,000 students, and will offer bachelor’s, master’s, DDS, and PhD degrees through the three constituent colleges—was recommended by a working group of 26 faculty and deans, and was supported by faculty governance groups and the University Senate prior to the Trustees’ vote. It will be officially launched in the coming months; a national search for a dean of the Faculty of Health will begin in the fall.

As part of the creation of the Faculty of Health, the Trustees also:

• Created the NYU College of Global Public Health.
  The College of Global Public Health will offer PhD degrees, MPH degrees, and collaborate with other NYU schools on joint global public health majors for undergraduates in both the College of Arts and Science and professional schools including NYU’s College of Nursing, Silver School of Social Work, and the Steinhardt School.

• Created an independent NYU College of Nursing.
  Since 2005, the College of Nursing—one of the top-ranked nursing programs in the U.S. and 3rd in NIH funding—has been part of NYU’s College of Dentistry. As of the coming academic year, it will be a stand-alone college of the University, and part of the Faculty of Health.

Dr. Robert Berne, NYU’s Executive Vice President for Health, said, “The creation of the Faculty of Health is a natural evolutionary step that builds on NYU’s strengths, particularly our unrivaled global presence and our successes with interdisciplinary collaboration. Its three component colleges—dentistry, global public health, and nursing—are among our most dynamic, innovative, successful, and collaborative schools, and the Faculty of Health will provide a frame for them to work together even more closely on improving human health, both for individuals and populations. The Faculty of Health will collaborate closely with virtually all of NYU’s other schools, including the NYU Langone Medical Center, the Silver School of Social Work, the Steinhardt School, the Faculty of Arts and Science, the Wagner School, and our school of engineering.

“I am particularly pleased by the excitement the faculty in these colleges—and in other NYU schools—have shown for this idea. I want to thank them, the deans, all the others involved in bringing this about.

“These changes will be an important step forward for NYU’s health enterprise. And it epitomizes the NYU way of doing business—innovatively and collaboratively creating a whole that is greater than the sum of its parts.”

John Sexton, NYU President
“NYU has long been at the forefront of medicine and science. I have no doubt that over the years to come this new NYU Faculty of Health will contribute to boosting human health, produce remarkable new research, and educate students who will go on to be leaders in the health field.”

NYU President John Sexton said, “These changes will be an important step forward for NYU’s health enterprise. And it epitomizes the NYU way of doing business—innovatively and collaboratively creating a whole that is greater than the sum of its parts. Each of these colleges is a leader within its field, and going forward each will be strengthened by its connection to others.”

Dr. Charles N. Bertolami, dean of the College of Dentistry, said, “The College of Dentistry enthusiastically welcomes the creation of the Faculty of Health. We currently enjoy multiple close collaborations with both the College of Nursing and the Global Institute of Public Health, the forerunner of the College of Global Public Health. This new initiative will further strengthen our ability to collaborate and to help solve the complex public health problems which confront the world.”

Dr. Cheryl Healton, inaugural dean of the College of Global Public Health, said, “The public health challenges facing the world today are formidable, and we are poised to contribute to their solutions with our colleagues throughout NYU. This university is revered for its entrepreneurial spirit, and we intend to harness and apply it to the world’s most pressing health problems.”

Dr. Eileen Sullivan-Marx, dean of the College of Nursing, said, “NYU’s College of Nursing has a long and successful history of leadership in nursing and international health education and research. This move to an independent school status, as well as the establishment of a Faculty of Health at NYU, will ensure that the tradition of excellence for which we are so well known flourishes.”
“History of Medicine and Dentistry” Course Helps Students Envision the Future by Studying the Past

If there’s one constant in life, it is change. It was the science fiction writer, Isaac Asimov, who said, “It is change, continuing change, inevitable change, that is the dominant factor in society today.” Such a dominant factor in our lives deserves serious study. And one way to study change is to chronicle it. An individual who embraces this approach is Dr. Andrew I. Spielman, associate dean for academic affairs and professor of basic science and craniofacial biology, who, for the past 14 years, has been teaching NYU dental students about the process and historical impact of change in an elective entitled “The History of Medicine and Dentistry.”

“We learn about our origins from history, but also where we are heading,” says Dr. Spielman, who attributes his interest in the history of medicine and dentistry to his father. “My father was a professor of the history of medicine,” explains Dr. Spielman, and he always thought that dental, medical, and other health professions students didn’t really understand or weren’t interested in their professions’ histories. I wanted to do something to rectify that.”

“This course brought a new and dramatic dimension to my studies,” says Lindsey Atiyeh, a third-year DDS student. “I realized that if I hoped to know where dentistry was going to go in the future, I needed to know its past, as well as that of medicine.”
The course originated in 2001, when NYUCD revised the entire DDS curriculum, and Dr. Spielman proposed a two-hour elective on “The History of Dentistry.”

The elective was an immediate success and it soon became a four-hour course. “That went on for a few years,” says Dr. Spielman, “all while students were asking for more.”

In 2008, the dean of NYU’s College of Arts and Science invited Dr. Spielman to present a full semester freshman honors course on “The History of Medicine and Dentistry” to NYU undergraduates. That expanded course went on to replace the original “History of Dentistry” course and to become a full-semester “History of Medicine and Dentistry” elective at NYUCD as well.

“Knowing the role that others before us played in shaping medicine and dentistry is a very important part of understanding the history of our own field,” says Dr. Spielman.

Above and left: Images from one of the most influential works on human anatomy, De humani corporis fabrica, by Andreas Vesalius, published in 1543.
current knowledge is essential in order to appreciate the present," says Dr. Spielman. "Moreover, with dentistry and medicine constantly changing at an exponential rate, educators have an obligation to prepare students for what awaits them."

Last spring Dr. Spielman divided his elective students into two groups and assigned each group a video project designed to promote critical thinking about how changes in medical knowledge and treatment occur. Each group was challenged to find links among 12 historical medical discoveries that contributed in some way to the first successful heart transplant. "I suggested that one group could study changes having to do with the blood or circulatory system and the other group could study changes having to do with sterility and bacteria," explains Dr. Spielman.

"What a fun experience," says Charles Buchanan, a third-year DDS student. "It was all hands on deck. Some of us focused on writing the script, some on editing, while others worked as videographers."

Presenting their videos at the end of the semester, the students were pleased with their accomplishment. "It wasn’t just a presentation or slides. We actually told a story, something interesting that other people might want to see," adds Mr. Buchanan.

"This course brought a new and dramatic dimension to my studies," says Lindsey Atiyeh, a third-year DDS student. "I realized that if I hoped to know where dentistry was going to go in the future, I needed to know its past, as well as that of medicine."

For Dr. Spielman, the opportunity to impart his passion and knowledge of history serves also as a way to pay tribute to his father. "This course," he says, "is part of his legacy."

Tooth and ear pick designed as a gold brooch with pearl, rubies and other precious stones. (Schatzkammer, Imperial Treasury, Hofburg Palace in Vienna, 18th century)
EHR Comes to NYUCD

On January 5, 2015, NYUCD transitioned from a written and film-based patient record to an Electronic Health Record (EHR)—a digital version of a patient’s health and dental record, consisting of all radiographic images, that instantly and securely displays information to authorized users.

A major technological enhancement to our patient care, educational, and business operations, the EHR integrates the patient health record, billing, and students’ progress in ways that go far beyond office- or hospital-based electronic records. The EHR provides state-of-the-art diagnostic codes for use in treating patients and provides decision support to aid clinical decision making and critical thinking.

“We began the process more than four years ago,” said Dr. Mark Wolff, professor and chair of the Department of Cariology and Comprehensive care and associate dean for predoctoral clinical education, who led the transition. “We reviewed the dental charts in use at the time, altering the questions and content with the aim of optimizing the best health care for our patients and the finest education for our students,” added Dr. Wolff.

The axiUm system, developed by the Exan Group, was selected as the best option for NYUCD based on its ability to manage patient records, patient scheduling, accounting, tracking student clinical performance, instrument distribution, and dental supplies.

The first phase of the project, launched in August 2014, saw the business system components of the axiUm system implemented throughout NYUCD. “The aim here was to mirror the functions of the previously used system,” said Mr. Ken Fauerbach, NYUCD’s Chief Information Officer. “This meant that once we had transitioned all patient accounts to axiUm, staff members were able to track patient appointments and payment records.”

“Now that the project is implemented,” added Mr. John McIntosh, assistant dean for clinical administration and revenue cycle management, who was also instrumental in implementing the EHR, “axiUm is enabling improved tracking of medical history and general consistency and accuracy of patient records. Equally important, the technology is improving student treatment planning, reporting of clinical performance, and transfer of information between points of care.”

“It’s been great for discussion of treatment plans with patients,” said Dr. Matthew Goldstein, ’15. “I was able to prepare a plan beforehand, with all the information I needed, including treatment phases and fees, and present it all in an easily accessible way to my patients.”
Oral Health Clerkship Shows Dental, Nursing, and Medical Students the Others’ Perspectives

Thanks to growing awareness of the importance of oral health in overall systemic health—and to the realization that primary care clinicians play an important role in preventing oral health problems early on—oral health is gaining increased attention in nursing and medical curricula.

The NYU College of Nursing (NYUCN) has a strong interprofessional focus, which, added to its alliance with NYUCD, has led to a number of boundary-stretching initiatives designed to build collaboration and understanding across the healthcare professions.

During spring and summer 2014, 20 NYU family nurse practitioner (FNP) students participated in an interprofessional pediatric oral health clerkship with their dental and medical colleagues.

The experience was part of NYUCN’s three-year Teaching Oral-Systemic Health (TOSH) program, funded by the U.S. Human Resources and Services Administration to help address significant unmet oral health care needs of millions of children nationwide.

As in prior collaborative learning opportunities, the objective was twofold: to teach specific oral health care competencies and at the same time to promote teamwork and mutual understanding of each profession’s primary care role.

“Historically, physicians and nurse practitioners have looked at the back of the throat but have ignored the teeth, gums, and tongue,” says Dr. Erin Hartnett, TOSH program director. The goal of the clerkship is to teach primary care providers to perform oral assessment, recognize abnormalities and oral-systemic connections, educate patients and families in oral health care, and provide early intervention opportunities for oral health.

During the half-day clerkships, teams of FNP, dental, and medical students each worked with a pediatric dental resident in the Bellevue pediatric dental clinic.
health promotion and prevention of problems, and refer to a dentist when needed.

“Oral health is an essential part of training that’s not usually available at nursing or medical school,” says Dr. Malay Mathur, a second-year pediatric dentistry resident at NYUCD, who led one of the clerkship teams. “Nurses and physicians should know how to recognize cavities and the condition of the tongue and mucosa, so that they can make a referral, if necessary.”

During the half-day clerkships, teams of FNP, dental, and medical students each worked with a pediatric dental resident in the Bellevue pediatric dental clinic. Team members collaborated in reviewing patients’ charts and taking their histories; conducting head, neck, and oral examinations; applying fluoride varnish; and providing anticipatory guidance to the parents.

The student teams identified a number of lesions and cavities, and students saw clearly the need to talk to families about tooth brushing and about the risks of sugary drinks and candy. One child needed to be referred to an orthodontist.

NYUCN has changed the traditional HEENT exam, which covers the head, eyes, ears, nose, and throat, to HEENOT, so that students cannot forget the oral cavity.

Simone Teodoro, a second-year FNP student, left the clerkship feeling confident about her ability to identify cavities. She says that she had not learned anything about oral health before coming to NYU, and was thrilled to have this opportunity.

“In just the five years that I became a nurse,” she says, “there’s been growing awareness of the role of oral health in nursing. You can see its importance in chronic illnesses. If we can determine when a patient needs to see a dentist, we can really help that person.”

Ravi Vaswani, the third-year medical student who teamed with Dr. Mathur, Ms. Teodoro, and dental student Allison Horn, ’15, says, “Working with Simone, the FNP student, helped me see some of the practical aspects of oral and systemic health. We had a patient with asthma, and she was able to advise the patient that she should rinse her mouth after using the inhaler, because the medication residue can lead to problems in the mouth.”

Ravi Vaswani was surprised by the similarity of approaches among the three professions, in terms of taking a history and conducting an oral exam. “Each discipline brings a different perspective on how to approach the patient. When I communicate with dentists or nurses in the future, I’ll know what is important to them in terms of caring for the patient.”

The above is based on an article initially published in the fall 2014 issue of NYU Nursing.
New Issue of the Journal of the Academy of Distinguished Educators Online Now

A new issue of NYUCD’s online-only, open-access magazine, the Journal of the Academy of Distinguished Educators (JADE) is online now at http://dental.nyu.edu/faculty/academy-of-distinguished-educators/jade.html.

JADE is the publications component of the NYU Academy of Distinguished Educators. JADE invites experts in higher education to face off on the thorny issues confronting higher education, at the same time as it endeavors to foster interdisciplinary and interprofessional education.

 Appropriately, the theme of the new issue of JADE is “Scoping Up” Dental Education to Address Scientific Uncertainty.

The issue focuses on the need for dental students to become more comfortable with a rapidly evolving professional mandate and with scientific uncertainty and to know where to go to find the best scientific evidence available. It features a guest editorial by Dr. Anthony T. Vernillo, professor of oral and maxillofacial pathology, radiology and medicine; a centerpiece article by Dr. Michele J. Equinda, Class of 2015; Dr. Mary Northridge, associate professor of epidemiology and health promotion; Dr. Alexander R. Kerr, clinical professor of oral and maxillofacial pathology, radiology and medicine; and Dr. Arlene R. Curry, clinical associate professor of oral and maxillofacial pathology, radiology and medicine; and Dr. Anthony T. Vernillo; and commentaries by Dr. Janice Lee, deputy clinical director of the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research, and Dr. Arthur L. Caplan, Drs. William F. and Virginia Connolly Mitty Chair, and director of the Division of Medical Ethics, NYU Langone Medical Center.

The issue focuses on the need for dental students to become more comfortable with a rapidly evolving professional mandate and with scientific uncertainty and to know where to go to find the best scientific evidence available.
Academy of Distinguished Educators Inducts New Members

Five NYUCD faculty members were inducted into the NYUCD Academy of Distinguished Educators during the 2014–2015 academic year. They are Dr. Marie Congiusta, clinical assistant professor of cariology and comprehensive care; Dr. Johanna Warshaw, research assistant professor of basic science and craniofacial biology; Dr. Laurie Fleisher, clinical assistant professor of cariology and comprehensive care; Dr. Debra Ferraiolo, clinical assistant professor of oral and maxillofacial pathology, radiology and medicine; and Dr. Ronald Craig, professor of basic science and craniofacial biology.

“NYUCD takes great pride in the outstanding contributions to dental education, research, and scholarship of these newest members of the Academy,” said Dean Bertolami. “In inducting them, the Academy continues to set very high standards for recognizing excellence in clinical and educational scholarship.”
How *Peoplefirst* Taught Me the Importance of Empathy

*Peoplefirst* is a new, professional development initiative that grew out of ideas expressed at NYUCD’s inaugural Plenary Council in 2013 regarding customer service and how we treat our patients, our students, and each other. The Plenary Council is an annual all-volunteer assembly of more than 100 self-selected faculty, staff, and students, who seek to foster a more collegial approach to decision making.

The goal of *Peoplefirst* training is to support all members of our community in achieving positive and effective professional interactions by focusing on building rapport, understanding needs, using good communications skills, showing support, and following up. I was part of a group of approximately 350 administrators and staff who participated in the program over multiple days last summer, separated into subgroups of approximately 30 people per group.

Simply put, the *Peoplefirst* philosophy is “putting people first” by embracing a series of core values that include:

- Creating a caring environment
- Mutual respect
- Teamwork
- Empathy
- Ownership/responsibility/accountability
- Efficiency and continuous improvement
- Professional demeanor

The importance of these values, especially in a healthcare environment, cannot be overstated. They help us to understand the needs of the different individuals with whom we interact: patients, students, faculty, and staff colleagues. Fundamentally, the goal is to show people how much we care.
Training was encounter-based, with NYUCD administrators and staff placed in situations that encouraged active listening, learning verbal and nonverbal cues, portraying hypothetical patient-staff interactions, learning to achieve an accurate understanding of what someone says by asking for more information—a process termed “clarifying”—and repeating what you believe the speaker has said—a process called “confirmation.”

In my role as an admissions officer, I derived a major benefit from the Peoplefirst program in the area of “active listening.” Basically, it has to do with less talking and more listening, which places the focus on the speaker and on being attuned to her or his needs.

The program also strengthened my understanding of the importance of being responsive to prospective students’ needs in key areas; namely, dental school requirements, finances, policies and procedures, student support, and the role that empathy plays in selecting applicants for interviews by the Admissions Committee.

Empathy is defined as the ability to understand and share the feelings of another person from his or her perspective. For me, empathy is at the forefront of excellent customer service. Understanding what empathy is and extending this understanding to one another is fundamental in developing helpful and lasting relationships. During the Peoplefirst training sessions, interacting with my colleagues encouraged me to think about how necessary it is to “put myself in the other person’s shoes.” I feel that this approach provides me with a better understanding of how to deal with work-based situations and allows me to respond rationally, objectively—and empathically.

The program also made me more aware of how I express myself to current as well as prospective students and of the importance of providing accurate information and being understood. For example, I oversee the Office of Admissions Ambassadors Program, through which I recruit third-year and fourth-year DDS students to conduct tours for prospective DDS students. Since participating in the Peoplefirst program, I have come to understand that their interactions with prospective students will only be as good as the information and training I provide for them.

As we go forward with the Peoplefirst approach, the program’s steering committee, on which I serve, is working diligently to integrate these customer service concepts more broadly into the NYUCD culture as a whole.
NYU College of Dentistry Launches 17-Month, Fast-Track AAS Degree Program in Dental Hygiene—First of Its Kind in NYS

From left, top row: Mandy Blevins, Kristi Hackett, Jennifer Davis, Rachael Bazile, Megan Curran, Sarah Stringer, Margaret O’Connor, Erin O’Donnell. From left, bottom row: Portia Yaku, Tony Salvatore, Ryan Wrobel, Matthew Falcett, Alex Jones, Jason Avila, Andrew Hahn.

NYUCD is pleased to announce that, effective January 2015, it is offering an accelerated, continuous, 17-month Associate in Applied Science (AAS) degree in dental hygiene.

The Fast-Track AAS degree program, the first of its kind in New York State, is designed specifically to enable highly motivated students to gain access to the same innovative, high-quality education as that offered by the traditional two- to-three year course of study, but in a more concentrated period.

U.S. News and World Report ranked dental hygiene in the top 10 on their list of Best Jobs of 2014. And USA Today ranked NYU in their 2015 list of 10 best U.S. colleges in which to study health professions. Dental hygienists make yearly starting salaries of more than $70,000, and the prediction is for 33.3 percent employment growth in this field within the next decade.

“The new Fast-Track program addresses the readiness of high school graduates—and those who already hold college degrees but desire to change careers—to enter one of the most personally fulfilling and professionally rewarding health professions within the shortest possible time,” said Dr. Cheryl M. Westphal Theile, assistant dean for allied health programs at NYUCD. “As key members of the healthcare team, dental hygienists work together with dentists to meet the oral health needs of patients and thereby improve patients’ quality of life.”

NYU offers the only dental hygiene programs housed within a dental college in New York State. This gives Fast-Track students the opportunity to learn in integrated clinical settings alongside NYU dental students, as well as with NYU faculty members from dental hygiene, dentistry, and dental specialty areas in state-of-the-art facilities that attract the largest, most diverse patient population in the nation. Community-based rotations further enable students to gain valuable clinical experience while helping to educate patients about the importance of oral health and promoting a lifetime of good health habits.

“The new Fast-Track program addresses the readiness of high school graduates—and those who already hold college degrees but desire to change careers—to enter one of the most personally fulfilling and professionally rewarding health professions within the shortest possible time.”

Dr. Cheryl Westphal Theile
Dr. Stuart M. Hirsch, vice dean for international initiatives, development, and student affairs and a professor of cariology and comprehensive care, has won the 2015 William J. Gies Award for Outstanding Achievement by a Dental Educator, part of the William J. Gies Awards for Vision, Innovation, and Achievement sponsored by the American Dental Education Association (ADEA). The Gies Award was presented to Dr. Hirsch in March, in conjunction with the 2015 ADEA Annual Session and Exhibition in Boston. The Procter & Gamble Company is the premier sponsor of the awards.

The Gies Award for Outstanding Achievement by a Dental Educator recognizes Vice Dean Hirsch for his leadership of NYUCD’s global outreach program, which brings dental care to populations in great need, while ensuring student opportunities for service, teaching, and research at the global level.

“Vice Dean Hirsch began 15 years ago to build a program that has become the largest voluntary, university-based, dental outreach program in the world,” said Dean Bertolami. “From the start, his model has emphasized sustainability, both in terms of ongoing patient care and financial stability. It has also transformed the perspectives of participating students, sensitizing them to the largest dental problem in both the U.S. and the world—access to care—and has influenced the way NYU dental graduates practice professionally.”

The Gies Awards, named after dental education pioneer William J. Gies, debuted in 2008 to honor individuals and organizations that exemplify the highest standards in oral health and dental education, research, and leadership. This is the second time that an NYU faculty member has received the Gies award. Dr. Michael C. Alfano, dean emeritus of the College of Dentistry, was one of the inaugural recipients of this honor.
On June 1, 2015, the Class of 2015, including over 350 candidates for the degree of Doctor of Dental Surgery, the AAS and BS degrees in dental hygiene, Advanced Education Program certificates, MS degrees in clinical research, and the MS degree in biomaterials, saw their dreams come true as they received their degrees and certificates before an audience of approximately 3,000 people in The Theatre at Madison Square Garden. Dr. Robert Berne, NYU’s executive vice president for health, brought greetings on behalf of the university.

Also highlighting the ceremony was the presentation of the Harry Strusser Memorial Award to Mr. Steven W. Kess, vice president for global professional relations at Henry Schein, Inc., the world’s largest provider of healthcare products and services to office-based dental, animal health, and medical practitioners. Presented annually by NYUCD, the award recognizes outstanding contributions to public health. The award is named after the late Dr. Harry Strusser, a 1918

“Although we are the largest dental school in the U.S., we have developed a sense of family and have created friendships that will last throughout our lives. Some of you will join the military, some will establish private practices, and some will enter residencies, but remember where it all started … here at NYUCD.”

Dr. William Bongiorno, ’73
President, NYUCD Alumni Association
graduate of the NYU College of Dentistry and director of the former bureau of dentistry of New York City’s Health Department.

“Steve has been a leader in the field of public health for decades, during which he has been instrumental in forging innovative public-private partnerships which have helped advance public health on a global scale,” said Dean Bertolami.

Dr. William Bongiorno, ’73, president of the NYUCD Alumni Association and clinical assistant professor of cariology and comprehensive care, brought greetings from the Alumni Association. “Although we are the largest dental school in the U.S.,” said Dr. Bongiorno, “we have developed a sense of family and have created friendships that will last throughout our lives. Some of you will join the military, some will establish private practices, and some will enter residencies, but remember where it all started … here at NYUCD.”

Mr. Richard J. Tanega spoke on behalf of the dental hygiene programs and Dr. Gregory W. Lewis represented the DDS program.

“The NYU College of Dentistry celebrates the achievements of our newest alumni, of the faculty, family, and friends who have guided them to this momentous day, and of our distinguished Strusser Award recipient” said Dean Bertolami. “Getting to this day has taken more than hard work, dedication, and discipline,” Dean Bertolami told graduates. “It has also taken a commitment to educational excellence, a strong public service orientation, and a growing global perspective, all of which have made this class so special. We wish our graduates great success and happiness in the years ahead,” he concluded.
WHITE COAT CEREMONY MARKS ENTRANCE OF CLASS OF 2017 INTO CLINICAL PHASE OF DDS PROGRAM

On January 30, 2015, a newly conceived White Coat Ceremony was held to honor the Class of 2015 at the point at which they had successfully completed the basic science component of their dental education program and were poised to enter the clinical phase of their journey toward becoming dentists.

In addition to the timing of the ceremony, there was also a new site, the magnificent NYU Skirball Center for the Performing Arts at Washington Square, and an added category of guests—the students’ families—who were invited to thank them for their continued support of their children’s academic and professional aspirations.

“We made the decision to hold the ceremony a year and a half into the dental educational experience,” said Dean Bertolami, “because we felt that this should be a high-impact, emotionally significant event in the student’s life. Elsewhere, students are honored with the white coat during the first week of dental school. This has never made sense to me because students haven’t yet earned the privilege of wearing white coats. In contrast, by the time students are further along with their dental education program, they’ve had successes and failures and overcome some significant challenges. Some might not even make it to this extremely important day. For those who do, the white coat will always hold special meaning.

“Similarly, the splendid new site was chosen to help produce a specific emotional response: Our dental classrooms are beautiful, but ceremony and ritual are intended to take us outside of ourselves. The right words, the right music, the right witnesses, and the right location—all beyond our ordinary routine—are needed to convey the importance and seriousness of the event.

Adding further to the event was an assignment the Dean gave to this class during their first week of dental school: As an exercise, he asked them to design a school pin. This would require organizational and artistic skills. A competition was held and then the students voted to
identify the top entry. The Dean then had the pin produced and the class decided to make the pin a part of the White Coat event. Each student was given two pins during the ceremony—one for themselves and one to “gift” to someone of special significance in their lives who helped them arrive at this special day.

In addition to Dean Bertolomai, speakers included Dr. Robert Berne, NYU’s executive vice president for health, who delivered greetings; welcoming remarks by Staci Ripkey, assistant dean for student affairs and academic support services; and presentation of the newly designed “white coat pin” by Billy Kwon, ’17, and members of the Class of 2016 Student Council.

Associate Dean for Academic Affairs Andrew Spielman announced the presentation of the white coats and the students in each of NYUCD’s 14 group practices were called to the stage for investiture with white coats by faculty members. The ceremony concluded with a student pledge, led by Dr. Alexis Cohen, ’12, affirming commitment to professionalism, humanism, integrity, and ethics as health professionals.

The ceremony also featured a video specially commissioned for the event titled “Journey to the Clinical Curriculum,” in which senior students delivered inspiring messages about their own journeys through the clinical portion of their education.

“We made the decision to hold the ceremony a year and a half into the dental educational experience because we felt that this should be a high-impact, emotionally significant event in the student’s life.”

Dean Charles N. Bertolomai
Dr. Eugenia E. Mejia, assistant dean for admissions and enrollment management, was recently honored with a Latina Fifty-Plus Trailblazer Award at a ceremony in Manhattan that was covered by NBC-TV. In addition to Dr. Mejia, who was honored for her pioneering contributions to education, five other Latinas were honored for their contributions to literature, medicine/health care, community service, law, and the arts.

The sponsoring organization, Latina Fifty-Plus, was founded in 2014 by artist, educator, and activist Maria Aponte-Gonzalez to pay tribute to Latinas over 50 years of age who are trailblazers in their respective fields.

Dr. Mejia, who is responsible for recruiting and enrolling approximately 400 DDS students annually, joined NYUCD in 2005. Prior to her position at NYUCD, she served as director of the Collegiate Science Technology Entry Program at NYU’s Steinhardt School, where she spearheaded initiatives designed to increase the number of underrepresented students in science and the health professions and advocated for and mentored these students throughout their years at NYU.

“I can think of few individuals who are better role models than Eugenia, or who give as much of themselves to ensure that students have a multitude of options open to them,” said Dean Bertolami. “She has increased access to higher education for members of historically underrepresented communities and has guided and mentored them with unstinting commitment. In short, Dr. Eugenia Mejia exemplifies the best of what we at NYUCD try to promote. I know that everyone at the College joins me in congratulating Eugenia on this wonderful, well-deserved recognition.”

“Dr. Eugenia Mejia exemplifies the best of what we at NYUCD try to promote. I know that everyone at the College joins me in congratulating Eugenia on this wonderful, well-deserved recognition.”

Dean Charles N. Bertolami
The Class of 2016 scored an amazing 99.6 percent pass rate on Part I of the National Boards, with an overall score that is 2.84 standard deviations above students at all other dental schools.

The Class of 2016 pass rate on Part I of the National Boards continues a remarkable trend that included a 100 percent pass rate for the Class of 2015; a 99.6 pass rate for the Class of 2014; and a 99.6 pass rate for the Class of 2013.

As we’ve noted on previous occasions, an important measure of the magnitude of this success is the fact that NYUCD’s student body is larger than that of a typical dental school, suggesting that the board scores would be likely to regress toward the national mean. Instead, NYU dental students are raising the bar on performance standards nationally.

But statistics tell only part of the story. The engine that drives such success is fueled by our extraordinary faculty, whose talent and dedication, coupled with the incredibly hard work and intelligence of our students, is an unbeatable formula for success. On behalf of everyone at NYUCD, Global Health Nexus offers hearty congratulations to our wonderful students and faculty on their exceptional achievement.

NYUCD Wins First Place at NYU All-University Games

NYUCD has won first place in the 17th Annual All-University Intramural Games. This is the first time that NYUCD has earned this distinction. The trophy signifying the students’ achievement is on display in the Student Services Suite on the lobby level of the new building at 433 First Avenue.

Twenty-two teams representing every college, graduate, and undergraduate program at NYU, along with alumni, faculty, and administrators, competed in an intense six-hour competition featuring more than 10 athletic events.

Global Health Nexus salutes our outstanding student athletes, whose accomplishment has added further luster to NYUCD’s reputation.
When Dr. Gregory Lewis, DDS ’15, arrived at NYUCD in fall 2011, he was eager not only to pursue his dental studies, but also to become involved in extracurricular activities. As a freshman, he became community service chairmain for the Class of 2015. As chairman, Greg, 27, helped organize and plan several community service events, including the 2012 New York City Oral Cancer Walk. Also in 2012, Greg was elected president of his class, a position he held through his graduation in June.

“Some people take on leadership roles because it’s something they want to put on their résumés,” said Maya Ardon, NYUCD’s associate director of student life and leadership initiatives in the Office of Student Affairs and Academic Support Services. “Not Greg. For him it’s so personal. He genuinely wants his classmates to succeed and make the most of their time here. For example, in his weekly emails he always made sure to put in a tip about how students can be more successful in either school or their personal lives.”

Leadership and community service activities have always been important to Greg. He grew up in Columbus, Ohio, where he was active in the Boy Scouts, eventually becoming an Eagle Scout, scouting’s highest ranking. As an undergraduate at Ohio Wesleyan University—where he majored in biochemistry and minored in biology—Greg served as vice president of his fraternity, Sigma Chi. He also performed as a team leader on a spring break trip to New Orleans, where he helped rebuild homes destroyed by Hurricane Katrina.

After graduating from Ohio Wesleyan University, Greg worked as a science lab coordinator at Kettering College of Medical Arts, in Kettering, Ohio, where he developed a chemical hygiene plan for the college, among other accomplishments. He also applied to dental schools during that time, with the aim of attending NYUCD.
“Attending NYUCD was a great overall experience,” said Greg. “There were so many opportunities to get involved beyond the classroom.” As class president, Greg’s primary responsibilities involved acting as a liaison between his class and the administration, leading class meetings, and maintaining open communication within the class to resolve relevant issues.

“Greg’s is a quiet kind of leadership,” said Ms. Ardon. “He’s incredibly laid-back, but he is also motivated and focused. He really made an effort to get to know everyone in his class.”

Greg has been involved in myriad activities as class president, including organizing an Advanced Placement student welcoming party. “Advanced Placement students come to NYUCD with a dental degree from another country,” said Greg, “and it’s often awkward for them to enter the program. We thought that a welcoming party would break the ice and allow them to get to know the other students.”

While his responsibilities as class president, along with his course requirements, took up much of Greg’s time at NYUCD, he was glad to have had the opportunity to participate in two global outreaches. In fall 2013 and fall 2014, Greg participated in global outreaches to Nicaragua and Nepal, respectively.

“Both of these trips were incredible learning experiences,” said Greg. “You really see firsthand just how critical education and access to dental care are to overall health.”

Greg is a first-generation dentist. His dad is a software engineer and his mom is a legal secretary. One reason Greg was drawn to dentistry was because it’s a very “active” field. “You’re not sitting down all day, and you have to have a lot of creative ability to meet whatever the situation demands,” said Greg.

At NYUCD, Greg built a reputation as a guy who displays grace under pressure. Dr. Arthur Schackman, clinical associate professor in the Department of Cariology and Comprehensive Care, was Greg’s group practice director. “Greg was always cool under fire, very low key,” said Dr. Schackman. “He loves to learn and assimilates information very quickly. He’s one of those students who rises to the top.”

Throughout dental school Greg managed to find time to participate in an intramural soccer league and to take regular runs along the East River. These outdoor physical fitness activities helped him stay calm under pressure.

“In general, I try to stay optimistic and not get too stressed out,” he said.

After completing a general practice residency, Greg plans to join a private practice. Further down the line he is thinking that he may incorporate some teaching into his professional life.

Greg is already reflecting on his time at NYUCD. “I am definitely going to miss a lot of students,” said Greg. “I think we have worked really well together as a class. It’s bittersweet to say goodbye.”

“Attending NYUCD was a great overall experience,” said Greg. “There were so many opportunities to get involved beyond the classroom.”
RAJ SHETH, ’15, AAS IN DENTAL HYGIENE: A NEW KIND OF ROLE MODEL FOR THE PROFESSION

Raj Sheth, Class of 2015, has an unusual background for a dental hygiene student. First, he is a man in a profession that traditionally has been dominated by women; and second, he entered the dental hygiene program already holding two degrees: a BS in biology from the University of Texas at Arlington, and an MS in biology from the University of Central Missouri.

Raj’s interest in oral health care was sparked several years ago when he paid an extended visit to an uncle in Seymour, Connecticut. “I have many aunts and uncles and this particular uncle is a dentist,” said Raj. “During my stay he allowed me to shadow him at his office. I realized that I really liked the patient interaction that dentists and dental hygienists have with their patients.”

In researching dental hygiene programs, Raj decided to apply to the dental hygiene program at NYUCD because of its large, diverse patient population. In 2013, he was accepted into the Associate in Applied Science degree program. Ms. Rosemary Hays, clinical associate professor of dental hygiene and assistant director of dental hygiene admissions, said, “We were very happy to have Raj in the program. He was always willing to share his knowledge and help out in any way he could.” She added that “dental hygiene has always been a profession led by women, but I think it’s turning the corner. Raj is a new kind of role model for the profession. He just stands out from the crowd.”

Raj comes from a family that places a great deal of value on education. Both of his brothers chose careers in medicine. Raj’s twin brother, Dez, is entering his third year of medical school and their older brother Milan is a cardiologist.

Raj grew up primarily in Fort Worth, Texas, where his parents still reside. His parents emigrated from India over 30 years ago.

“Dental hygiene has always been a profession led by women, but I think it’s turning the corner. Raj is a new kind of role model for the profession. He just stands out from the crowd.”

Professor Rosemary Hays
“I have been very fortunate,” said Raj, “and my parents have been consistently supportive. They have always said that when it comes to food and education, you spend as much as you need to spend. Their motto is: Never compromise.”

While at NYUCD, Raj was involved in many extracurricular activities, including serving as treasurer of the dental hygiene program, Class of 2015. “You are only here for so long,” said Raj. “So, whenever someone in the program asked me to help out on a project or committee, I always said, ‘yes.’” In fall 2014, Raj was invited to participate in NYUCD’s Plenary Council, an all-volunteer assembly of more than 100 faculty, students, and staff which meets for a full day annually to discuss what NYUCD does well and what can be improved. “A few students asked questions such as ‘How can we improve relations between the faculty and students? How can we improve the patient care experience?’ I was very fortunate to be part of this discussion, to voice an opinion on behalf of the dental hygiene students.” Ms. Winnie Furnari, clinical associate professor of dental hygiene, worked closely with Raj, both in the clinical portion of his program and in fostering his research activities, which were featured at the 2014 Greater New York Dental Meeting. Said Professor Furnari, “Raj was one of only two NYUCD dental hygiene students to present a research poster at this event. His was on laser therapy and scaling root therapy.”

At NYUCD, Raj also served as a student representative on the admissions advisory committee. And he was appointed to the College’s student ethics committee. “Raj was selected because he epitomizes ethics and professionalism,” said Professor Furnari.

Raj’s immediate plans are to secure a dental hygienist position in a general or specialty dental practice in the greater New York area. “For me, experience is the most important thing—trying to see as many patients as possible so that I can become a better clinician,” he said.

He also plans to apply to NYUCD’s DDS program. If all goes as planned, and Raj becomes a dentist, he hopes to open a private practice in either New York or Texas. He also wants to incorporate teaching and research into his career.

“Becoming a dentist is Raj’s dream,” said Professor Furnari, who added, “and his dental hygiene education would further enhance his dental practice. In any case, I know that Raj is going to be successful in whatever he does.”

In fall 2014, Raj was invited to participate in NYUCD’s Plenary Council, an all-volunteer assembly of more than 100 faculty, students, and staff which meets for a full day annually to discuss what NYUCD does well and what can be improved.
The President’s Service Awards recognize the distinguished achievements of NYU students and student organizations for their promotion of learning, leadership, and quality of student life at NYU.

This year, NYUCD President’s Service Award recipients are Dr. Eunice Gonsalves, ’15, for her leadership and support of the Global Students Association; Mr. Naga Tarun Guntupalli, ’16, for his leadership in creating a welcoming and cohesive environment at NYUCD; Dr. Simon Rafael Mosery, ’15, immediate past president of the NYUCD Student Council, for his commitment to student engagement, community building, and positive leadership; and Dr. Cheryline Pezzullo, ’15, for her impact on the NYUCD community through her demonstrated passion for diversity, service, and education.

Two NYUCD student organizations also received President’s Service Awards: the Allies and Queers for Understanding and Awareness (AQUA), for creating opportunities to educate, celebrate, and empower dental students around LGBTQ issues and needs, while also contributing to building awareness and inclusivity within the broader dental profession; and the Global Students Association at NYUCD, for continued success in promoting socialization of globally placed students and helping to acclimate them to U.S. culture and society.

NYUCD congratulates all the President’s Service Award winners on their outstanding achievements.
Dr. Parisa Kheirieh, a second-year postgraduate student in the Jonathan and Maxine Ferencz Advanced Education Program in Prosthodontics, is the 2015 recipient of the Dr. Harold Litvak Junior Fellowship in Prosthodontics. Each year, the Litvak Fellowship is awarded to the second-year postgraduate student in prosthodontics with the highest academic standing.

“Dr. Kheirieh’s passion for the field of prosthodontics has motivated her to reach for the highest standards in all of her work,” says Dr. Mijin Choi, clinical associate professor of prosthodontics and director of the Jonathan and Maxine Ferencz Advanced Education Program in Prosthodontics.

Dr. Kheirieh describes prosthodontics as a “progressive specialty, full of creativity, artistry, and adventure.” Dr. Kheirieh holds a DDS degree from the Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences—formerly the National University of Iran—as well as a certificate in comprehensive care dentistry from NYUCD’s Program for International Dentists.

“The Jonathan and Maxine Ferencz Advanced Education Program in Prosthodontics has provided me with extensive knowledge of diagnosis, treatment planning, clinical proficiency, and patient management skills,” says Dr. Kheirieh.

The Litvak Fellowship was established in 1999 through a generous grant from Mrs. Adele Block in honor of her dentist, Dr. Harold Litvak, a clinical professor of prosthodontics at NYUCD and a generous donor to the College. Mrs. Block is a member of the family that owned the Block Drug Company, Inc., a major producer of oral and general healthcare products, which is now a division of GlaxoSmithKline.
Sunday, April 19, 2015, marked the 10th anniversary of the NYU dental student-led New York City Oral Cancer Walk (OCW). The 2015 OCW took place in Brooklyn, starting at Commodore Barry Park and walking for approximately four miles to raise awareness of oral cancer, a disease that kills over 8,000 American men and women each year.

Since its inception, the OCW has attracted more than 500 walkers annually and has raised more than $600,000.

The OCW was initiated by Dr. Khadine Alston, Class of 2005, when she was a junior at NYUCD. Together with her classmates, Dr. Alston enlisted the mentorship of Dr. A. Ross Kerr, clinical professor of oral and maxillofacial pathology, radiology and medicine, who
has worked hand-in-hand with NYU dental students each year to organize the walk. Funds raised from the OCW have supported the public awareness initiatives of the Oral Cancer Foundation. To date, the OCW has been held in four of New York City’s five boroughs.

“Each year,” says Dr. Kerr, “our wonderful students have worked with tremendous energy and commitment to this initiative.”

As in previous years, students from NYU’s Colleges of Dentistry and Nursing, and from local chapters of the Student National Dental Association (SNDA), have partnered with Columbia University College of Dental Medicine, Stony Brook Health Sciences Center, the Oral Cancer Foundation, the Oral Cancer Consortium, the NYU Oral Cancer Center, Colgate, and other sponsors to help stamp out oral cancer. Also, as in previous years, NYU’s Smiling Faces, Going Places dental van was on-site to provide free oral cancer screenings to the public.

“Each year, our wonderful students have worked with tremendous energy and commitment to this initiative.”

Dr. A. Ross Kerr
In October 2012, Dr. Lorel Burns, Class of 2015, was selected by NYUCD to be a student “ambassador” to an ADA-sponsored meeting entitled “Increasing Diversity to Eliminate Disparities,” which was part of the ADA annual session in San Francisco. Student representatives from dental schools across the country attended the meeting.

The meeting’s emphasis was on strengthening the “pipeline” approach to recruiting underrepresented young people to dentistry. The pipeline concept holds that by providing for successive—and successful—transitions for members of underrepresented groups across educational milestones, society will increase its stock of educated citizens and enhance the public good. In dental education, this equates to increasing enrollment of underrepresented minorities in dental schools as a means of expanding access to care. To put it another way, dental institutions can best address the access-to-care issue by recruiting and admitting more underrepresented students who will go on to provide care for communities in need.

The consensus among attendees at the San Francisco meeting was that high school students were not being significantly encouraged and supported to enter the pipeline because of lack of awareness of dentistry as a career option, lack of resources, and lack of mentorship.

NYUCD has long had programs that target both middle school and college students as prospective applicants, but there had not been a focus on high school students. On her return to NYUCD, Dr. Burns enlisted her classmate, Dr. Cheryline Pezzullo, ’15, to create a program that would strengthen NYUCD’s pipeline for high school students. Dr. Mark Makling, ’15, was also instrumental in the Academy’s founding.

Drs. Burns, Pezzullo, and Makling contacted guidance counselors throughout the New York metropolitan area to recruit high school students and the result was the establishment in fall 2013 of “Saturday Academy,” a preparatory program for low-income, underrepresented high school students.

The 2013 Saturday Academy began with 15 underrepresented high school students; in 2014, there were 26 students from a pool of 50 applicants. Students attend sessions two Saturdays a month from September through December.

“The Academy has really taken off,” said Dr. Pezzullo, “with members of the first class telling their friends about it, and, in effect, marketing the program for us.”
Saturday Academy is sponsored in full by the NYUCD Student Council. At each session, students are provided with breakfast and lunch and five volunteers from NYUCD student clubs plus a core group of volunteers guide the participants through each step in the college application process and also introduce the students to various aspects of dentistry, including providing them with hands-on training. For example, participants learn to fabricate mouth guards, fill predrilled teeth using typodonts, and remove simulated plaque, also using typodonts. Core volunteers have included Dr. Vladimir Avril, ’15, Dr. Leon Johnson, ’15, Ms. Carmine Pena, ’16, and Mr. Blake Adams, ’17.

“You see their eyes light up when they understand the options they can have as dentists—the various specialties that are open to them,” added Dr. Burns.

Drs. Burns and Pezzullo have secured donations for Academy participants that include a Kaplan course for SAT preparation, electric toothbrushes, and college prep books. Financial aid advice is provided to students and their parents.

“The program’s primary objectives,” said Dr. Burns, “are to introduce the students to the profession of dentistry and to teach them about the college application process. But we also edit résumés and college essays. One of our greatest joys was helping with a college essay and writing a letter of recommendation for a student who received a full-tuition scholarship to attend NYU.”

With Drs. Burns, Pezzullo, and Makling having graduated, Ms. Pena has assumed a leadership role in the Academy.

“One of the things that made us happiest,” said Dr. Pezzullo, “was that several of the students have expressed a desire to return as volunteers. I can’t imagine a better example of the pipeline concept.”
CONGRATULATIONS TO...

**DR. CHARLES N. BERTOLAMI,** Herman Robert Fox Dean, on coauthoring an article with Dr. Robert Berne, executive vice president for health at NYU, entitled “Access to Care: Leveraging Dental Education” for the *Journal of Dental Education*. Added kudos to Dean Bertolami on his appointment to the board of trustees of the New York Academy of Medicine.

**MS. SHIRLEY BIRENZ,** clinical instructor of dental hygiene, on being elected president of the New Jersey State Board of Dentistry. Ms. Birenz is the first dental hygienist to hold that position.

**MS. SIMA BOTERASHVILI,** formerly a senior grants and contracts administrator at Weill Cornell Medical College, has been appointed a grants administrator in the Department of Cariology and Comprehensive Care.

**Commander Kevin Noall (ret),** left, with Dr. John Brewster, at the officiating ceremony marking Dr. Brewster’s promotion to Lieutenant Colonel in the U.S. Air Force.

**DR. JOHN BREWSTER,** a student in the MS degree program in biomaterials, and a former Major in the U.S. Air Force, on being promoted to Lieutenant Colonel in the U.S. Air Force.

**DR. TIMOTHY BROMAGE,** professor of biomaterials, on publishing an article entitled “Donald H. Enlow: The integrative Single Double Life of a Hard Tissue Naturalist” for the *American Journal of Physical Anthropology*.

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**DR. MANI ALIKHANI,** associate professor of orthodontics and director of the Consortium for Translational Orthodontic Research (CTOR) and **DR. CRISTINA TEIXEIRA,** associate professor and chair of the Department of Orthodontics, on coauthoring a book review of *Mechanotherapy in Orthodontics, Volume 1: Basic Biomechanics* for the *Journal of Clinical Orthodontics*.

**DR. RACHEL APPLEBLATT,** Class of 2015, Advanced Education Program in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, on presenting an oral abstract entitled “Associated Factors Involved in Presentation and Care of Severe Odontogenic Infections,” at the annual meeting of the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons (AAOMS).
MS. MALI CHEN, a former patient coordinator at Mount Sinai Hospital, on being appointed a patient services representative.

DR. A. ALPER COMUT, clinical assistant professor of prosthodontics, on coauthoring “Surgical and Prosthetic Management of a Complex Edentulous Patient for Fabrication of Complete Dentures” for The New York State Dental Journal.

DR. FREDRICK A. CURRO, clinical professor of oral and maxillofacial pathology, radiology, and medicine, on receiving the International Association for Dental Research (IADR) Distinguished Scientist Award in Pharmacology/Therapeutics/Toxicology Research.

DR. ANANDA P. DASANAYAKE, professor of epidemiology and health promotion, on being featured in Strides in Science, a monthly online feature sponsored by the American Association for Dental Research (AADR) and in the AADR’s Science Advocate, both of which highlight an AADR member’s accomplishments.

MS. SYREETA MONIQUE DAVIS, formerly a business manager at VCU Orthodontics in Richmond, Virginia, on being appointed a patient services representative.

MS. PIAR Cromwell, a former assistant for the preliminary accreditation program process, on being appointed to the position of postgraduate programs accreditation advisor.

DR. TYRA CROSS and DR. ROSHNI DHRUVA, both Class of 2015, on receiving student recognition awards from the New York State Dental Foundation for their outreach activities.

MS. MADERLY DE JESUS and MR. BRIAN GERMOSO on being appointed customer service representatives.

MS. NATASHA DENNIS on being appointed a materials management supply assistant. Prior to joining NYUCD, Ms. Dennis was a dental assistant at Mount Sinai Hospital.
DR. ANNA DI GREGORIO, associate professor of basic science and craniofacial biology, on being elected a Council Delegate to the Section on Medical Sciences of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

MS. SELENA I. DROBNICK on being appointed program coordinator of student affairs and academic support services. She holds a BA in psychology, with a double minor in theatre arts and public health, from Rutgers University.

DR. SIMONE DUARTE, assistant professor of basic science and craniofacial biology, on being appointed chair of the 2015–2016 IADR Young Investigator Award Committee and a member of the 2015–2016 IADR Distinguished Scientist Awards Committee.

MR. GUY ROBERT EDOUARD, JR., on being appointed a materials management transporter in the Central Sterilization Unit.

MS. JESSICA EISENHAUER, formerly a dental assistant in private practice, on being appointed a dental assistant at NYUCD. Ms. Eisenhauer earned a CDA certificate from the Dental Studies Institute of New Jersey.

MR. PATRICK ELYSEE, formerly a central supply technician at Winthrop University Hospital in Mineola, New York, on being appointed a sterilization technician in the Central Sterilization Unit.

DR. STEVEN ENGBRETSON, associate professor of periodontology and implant dentistry, on coauthoring an article entitled “Factors Associated with the Clinical Response to Nonsurgical Periodontal Therapy in People with Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus” for the Journal of the American Dental Association.

DR. JOHN EVANS, professor of basic science and craniofacial biology, on coauthoring an article entitled “Disordered C-RING Biominalization Protein, Ap7 Creates Protein Phases that Introduce Nanopatterning and Nanoporosities into Mineral Crystals” for Biochemistry.

DR. JONATHAN FERENCZ, clinical professor of prosthodontics, on authoring an article entitled “CAD/CAM Technologies: Providing Esthetic Restorations with Ease” for Dental Economics.
MS. JILL FERNANDEZ, clinical associate professor of pediatric dentistry, on coauthoring “OHEP: An Oral Health Education Program for Mothers of Newborns” for the Journal of Pediatric Health Care, and “Identification of Pediatric Oral Health Competencies through Interprofessional Education and Practice” for Nursing Research and Practice.

MR. GREGORY GAUTNEY, JR., formerly a graduate programming assistant at the NYU Student Resource Center, on being appointed an admissions officer. He holds an MA in higher education and student affairs from NYU, and a BA in modern languages and linguistics from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County.

MR. GREGORY GAUTNEY, JR., formerly a graduate programming assistant at the NYU Student Resource Center, on being appointed an admissions officer. He holds an MA in higher education and student affairs from NYU, and a BA in modern languages and linguistics from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County.

DR. KENNETH FLEISHER, clinical associate professor of oral and maxillofacial surgery, on coauthoring an article on treatment planning for patients with osteonecrosis of the jaw for the American Journal of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery. Added kudos to Dr. Fleisher on co-presenting a symposium on advances in oral health for patients with osteonecrosis of the jaw at the Greater New York Dental Meeting.

DR. CHANDURPAL P. GEHANI, clinical associate professor of endodontics, on being elected a trustee of the American Dental Association. Added congratulations to Dr. Gehani on receiving the Ellis Island Medal of Honor awarded by the National Ethnic Coalition of Organizations.

DR. ALEXANDRA GLICKMAN, Class of 2015 Advanced Education Program in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, on presenting an oral abstract entitled “Preliminary Clinical Experience and Outcome of the TMJ Arthroscopic Chemical Contracture Procedure in Dislocation Patients” at the annual meeting of the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons (AAOMS).

DR. DAVID GLOTZER, clinical professor of cariology and comprehensive care, on presenting a full-day course on disaster response to the members of the New York City Medical Reserve Corps. Dr. Glotzer’s co-presenters were Dr. Miriam Robbins, clinical associate professor and associate chair of the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology, Radiology and Medicine; Dr. Victoria Raveis, research professor of cariology and comprehensive care; and Dr. Arlene Curry, clinical associate professor of oral and maxillofacial pathology, radiology and medicine.
DR. BENJAMIN GODDER, clinical associate professor of cariology and comprehensive care, on being inducted as a fellow of the American College of Dentists.

MS. STEPHANIE GONZALEZ-VITALE on being appointed program administrator in the Department of Pediatric Dentistry. Prior to joining NYU, Ms. Gonzalez-Vitale served as an outreach coordinator for the American-Italian Cancer Foundation.


MS. EDDA HIGUITA, formerly a dental assistant in a private practice, on being appointed a dental assistant at NYUCD. Ms. Higuita graduated from the Dental Studies Institute of New Jersey in Fairfield Township.

DR. SARA HINDS, ’15, on being awarded the Colgate Research Award by the American Association of Women Dentists.

MR. EMMANUEL JOHNSON on being appointed a human resources generalist. Prior to joining NYUCD, Mr. Johnson served as a human resources officer at Boston College, where he also received a BA in corporate systems.

DR. ANGELA KAMER, associate professor of periodontology and implant dentistry, on coauthoring an article entitled “Periodontal Disease Associates with Higher Brain Amyloid Load in Normal Elderly” for the Journal of Neurobiology of Aging. Dr. Kamer’s coauthors included Dr. Ronald Craig, professor of basic science and craniofacial biology, and Dr. Deepak Saxena, associate professor of basic science and craniofacial biology.

MS. BELGICA KELLY, formerly a receptionist at LightE Associates Long Island Gastroenterology, on being appointed a patient services representative.

DR. ROSS KERR, clinical professor of oral and maxillofacial pathology, radiology, and medicine, on being elected president-elect of the American Academy of Oral Medicine and on presenting a lecture entitled “The Oral Microbiome and Cancer” at the annual meeting of the National Center for Dental Hygiene Research and Practice.
DR. JESSICA LEE, a second-year resident in the Advanced Education Program in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, on presenting an oral abstract entitled "Effectiveness of Simulation Models in Local Anesthesia Training" at the annual meeting of the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons (AAOMS).

DR. ZHONGBOU LIU, a postdoctoral student in the Department of Basic Science and Craniofacial Biology, on being selected by the Endocrine Society to receive the 2015 Endocrine Scholars Award in Growth Hormone Research, which is supported by Genentech.

DR. YIHONG LI, professor of basic science and craniofacial biology, on coauthoring an article entitled "Characterizing Diversity of Lactobacilli Associated with Severe Early Childhood Caries: A Study Protocol" for the Journal of Advances in Microbiology.

DR. HUIYING LIU, visiting scholar in the Department of Basic Science and Craniofacial Biology, on receiving the 2015 Endocrine Scholars Award in Growth Hormone Research, which is supported by Genentech.

MS. ELIANA LOZANO, formerly a surgical processing technician intern at Palisades Medical Center in North Bergen, New Jersey, on being appointed a sterilization technician in the Central Sterilization Unit.

DR. RONALD I. MAITLAND, clinical assistant professor of cariology and comprehensive care, on authoring an article entitled "What It Means to be a Doctor: Sensitizing the Dentist and the Student to Professionalism" for The New York State Dental Journal.

DR. WILLIAM MALONEY, clinical associate professor of cariology and comprehensive care, on being named to the editorial boards of the Journal of Dentomaxillofacial Radiology, Pathology and Surgery and the Edorium Journal of Dentistry; and on authoring articles entitled "The Long Climb: From Barber Surgeons to Doctors of Dental Surgery" for The New York State Dental Journal; "The Salem Witch Trials: First Use of Bitemark Evidence in Court" and "From Ashes to Scientific Advancement: A Belle Epoque Blaze Results in the First Forensic Odontology Text," both for the New York State Dental Association News; "el padre de la implantalogia dental moderna" for Implantologia; and on coauthoring "Potentially Life Threatening Route of Administration of Tobacco in Male High School Athletes" for Dentista y Paciente.

DR. SUHASINI MANDIGA, Class of 2015, on winning an Apex Award sponsored by the American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry.
MS. CYNTHIA LYNN MARTINEZ, formerly a patient services representative in the Department of Dermatology at Mount Sinai Beth Israel Medical Center, on being appointed a patient services representative at NYUCD.

MS. CARMELITA MAURENTT, senior human resources assistant, on being awarded an NYU Give-A-Violet Award for performing “above and beyond the normal scope of her responsibilities, and demonstrating outstanding integrity, respect, customer focus, teamwork, and adaptability.”

DR. MAUREEN McANDREW, clinical associate professor of cariology and comprehensive care and senior director of professional development, on being awarded the 2014 ADA Golden Apple Award for Inspiring Careers in Dental Education, and on coauthoring articles entitled “Effectiveness of an Online Tutorial on Intimate Partner Violence for Dental Students: A Pilot Study” and “Do Dental Students Use Optimal Study Strategies?” both for the Journal of Dental Education. Added kudos to Dr. McAndrew on her presentations entitled “Symposium on Modern Dentistry” at the ASEAN Forum on Dentistry Conference in Nanning, China; “U.S. Dental Education and Faculty Development” at the Guanghua School of Stomatology of Sun Yat-sen University in Guanghua, China; and “Trends in Dental Education and Professional Development” at the Target Meeting’s Second World Dental Online Conference.

MS. SHARON N. MENDEZ, formerly an outpatient perinatal registered nurse at Mount Sinai St. Luke’s, on being appointed a registered nurse at NYUCD.

DR. FREDERICK MORE, professor of epidemiology and health promotion, on being elected as a member-at-large to the board of directors of the American Society for Dental Ethics and on being an invited panelist at the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association annual session in Baltimore.

DR. AMR MOURSI, associate professor and chair of the Department of Pediatric Dentistry on being elected to a three-year term as an academic trustee-at-large of the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry, and on receiving the Merle C. Hunter Leadership Award.
presented by the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry.

**MS. MARGARET MARY MULLEN** on being appointed clinical applications administrator of technology and informatics services. Ms. Mullen holds an AAS in dental hygiene from Kalamazoo Valley Community College in Michigan.

**MS. MEGAN MURPHY,** formerly a student advisor at Western Governors University, on being appointed a student retention and academic advising administrator for the dental hygiene program. She holds an MBA from the University of Phoenix and a BA in English from Arizona State University.

**DR. RICHARD NIEDERMAN,** professor and chair of the Department of Epidemiology and Health Promotion, on authoring a chapter on dentistry for the third edition of *Disease Control Priorities*, which released its first volume, on Essential Surgery, in March, and on presenting a one-week intensive course on evidence-based dentistry at NYUCD in February, in an initiative cosponsored by the American Dental Association and NYUCD.

**DR. MARY NORTHRIDGE,** associate professor of epidemiology and health promotion, on completing a 16-year tenure as editor-in-chief of the *American Journal of Public Health* and becoming the journal’s first editor emerita.

**MS. DEBORA OWUSU-APPIAH,** formerly a central service technician at Lincoln Hospital in Bronx, New York, on being appointed a sterilization technician in the Central Sterilization Unit.

**DR. NICOLA C. PARTRIDGE,** professor and chair of the Department of Basic Science and Craniofacial Biology, on being honored by the American Society for Bone and Mineral Research (ASBM R) annual meeting with the presentation in her honor of the ASBM R Young Investigator Award in recognition of an outstanding abstract submitted by a female young investigator in bone research.

**DR. EVGENY PAVLOV,** assistant professor of basic science and craniofacial biology, on coauthoring “The TRPM8 Protein Is a Testosterone Receptor” part one, “Biochemical Evidence for Direct TRPM8-Testosterone Interactions,” and part two,
“Functional Evidence for an Ionotropic Effect of Testosterone on TRPM8,” both for the *Journal of Biological Chemistry*.

**DR. IVY PELTZ**, clinical assistant professor of cariology and comprehensive care, on presenting a poster entitled “A Quantitative Study of Experiential Learning” at the annual Association for Dental Education in Europe (ADEE) meeting in Riga, Latvia.

**DR. STEVEN PIGLIACELLI**, instructor in prosthodontics, on authoring two articles, “A Strategy You Can Bank On” and “The True Cost of Doing it for Yourself” for *Dental Economics*.

**MS. EKATERINA POPOVA** on being appointed a patient services representative at the NYUCD Faculty Practice. Prior to joining NYUCD, Ms. Popova served as a receptionist in a private dental practice.

**MS. SAMREEN QURESHI**, AAS Program in Dental Hygiene Class of 2015, on presenting a table clinic on “Fluorides and Dental Caries” at the 2014 Greater New York Dental Meeting.

**MS. RITA RANI** on being appointed a materials management supply assistant. Prior to joining NYUCD, Ms. Rani served as a dental assistant and receptionist in private dental practices. She holds a dental assistant certificate from the New York City Vocational Training Center.

**DR. VICTORIA RAVEIS**, research professor of cariology and comprehensive care, on coauthoring a study identifying the challenges faced by NYU Langone nurses in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy for the *Journal of Urban Health*.

**MR. ALPHONSO L. REYES** on being appointed a patient services representative.

**DR. SEUNG-HEE RHEE**, clinical associate professor of cariology and comprehensive care, on being inducted as a Fellow of the Pierre Fauchard Academy.

**MS. STACI L. RIPKEY**, assistant dean for student affairs and academic support services, on presenting the keynote address at the 2015 Stony Brook University Professional Development Conference. The presentation was on the subject of leadership and organizational change in higher education as it relates to professional development.

**MS. MARSHA ROBINSON** on being appointed an administrative aide in the Linhart Continuing Dental Education Program. She served previously as an office assistant at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, where she earned an MS in neuroscience and education.
MS. AMANDA ROCHELLEN, a former front desk receptionist in the Dean’s Office, on being appointed receptionist in the Office of Admissions and Student Services.

MR. JACOB RODRIGUEZ, formerly a supply technician at Scripps Green Hospital in La Jolla, California, on being appointed a materials management shipping and receiving assistant.

MS. MARIA CATHERIA RODRIGUEZ on being appointed a materials management clinical supply assistant.

MS. MAYRA RODRIGUEZ, formerly a health information technician at Scripps Memorial Hospital in Encinitas, California, on being appointed a quality assurance medical records assistant.

TATIANA RODRIGUEZ, SAT E., and SAVANNAH WILLIAMS on being appointed NYUCD’s first Telephone Service Center (TSC) representatives. The creation of the TSC reflects the philosophy of NYUCD’s Peoplefirst initiative (see related story on p. 108), which aims to strengthen NYUCD’s focus on creating a more nurturing, more respectful, more empowering environment for patients, students, faculty, and staff. Tatiana Rodriguez and Sat E. previously served in the 3S patient treatment area and in the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, respectively. Savannah Williams comes to NYUCD from the Dimock Community Health Center in Boston.

DR. MACELA ROMERO-REYES, assistant professor of oral and maxillofacial pathology, radiology and medicine, on being awarded the Whitehead Fellowship for Junior Faculty in the Biomedical and Biological Sciences.

DR. PAUL A. ROSENBERG, professor of endodontics, on
being appointed senior advisor for special projects, reporting to Dr. Stuart M. Hirsch, vice dean for international initiatives, development, and student affairs. Dr. Rosenberg’s duties in that role include special assignments focusing on improving the quality of student life and clinic management. Added kudos to Dr. Rosenberg on the publication of a textbook entitled *Endodontic Pain: Diagnosis, Causes, Prevention and Treatment*.

**DR. RAID SADDA**, clinical associate professor of oral and maxillofacial surgery, on authoring an article entitled “Crestal Approach for Removing a Migrated Dental Implant from the Maxillary Sinus: A Case Report” for *General Dentistry* and coauthoring an article entitled “Dental Management of Florid Cemento-Osseous Dysplasia” for *Clinical Medicine* with **DR. JOAN A. PHELAN**, professor and chair of the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology, Radiology and Medicine.

**MS. SARAH GABRIELLE SAINT-LOTH**, formerly a medical receptionist and clerk at the New York Eye and Ear Infirmary of Mount Sinai Hospital, on being appointed a patient services representative.

**DR. BRIAN SCHMIDT**, director of the Bluestone Center for Clinical Research and the NYU Oral Cancer Center, and professor of oral and maxillofacial surgery, on coauthoring a study with Dr. David Lam of the University of Toronto that has discovered the trigger behind the most severe forms of cancer pain for the journal *Pain*; on presenting a plenary lecture on “What Pain Tells Us About Cancer” at the 15th World Congress on Pain; and on being elected an American Dental Education spokesperson on oral cancer.

**DR. ANDREA SCHREIBER**, associate dean for graduate and postgraduate programs and clinical professor of oral and maxillofacial surgery, on chairing and moderating the oral abstract sessions at the annual scientific meeting of the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons.

**MS. DIANNE SEFO AND MS. LISA STEFANOU**, both clinical instructors in the dental hygiene program, on coauthoring an article entitled “Quelling Dental Anxiety” for *Dimensions of Dental Hygiene*.

**MR. RAJ SHETH**, AAS Program in Dental Hygiene Class of 2015, on presenting a table clinic entitled “Laser Therapy” at the 2014 Greater New York Dental Meeting.

**DR. EMI SHIMIZU**, assistant professor of basic science and craniofacial biology, on co-authoring “Parathyroid Hormone
Regulates HDAC4 Through PKA-mediated Phosphorylation and Dephos-phorylation in Osteoblastic Cells” for the *Journal of Biological Chemistry*. Dr. Shimizu’s coauthors were Dr. Teruyo Nakatani and Dr. Zhiming He, both research scientists in the Department of Basic Science and Craniofacial Biology, and Dr. Nicola C. Partridge, professor and chair of the Department of Basic Science and Craniofacial Biology.

**MR. GLENNON WAYNE SIMMONS** on being appointed biomaterials laboratory manager in the Department of Biomaterials. Prior to joining NYUCD, he served as senior research project manager through a partnership between Rice University and MiniFab.

**MS. UNIQUE SINGLETON**, formerly a facilities coordinator at the Harlem Children’s Zone, on being appointed an administrative aide in the Central Sterilization Unit. Ms. Singleton earned both Bachelor of Business Administration and MBA degrees from Jacksonville University in Florida.

**DR. AMY SMITH SLEP**, professor of cariology and comprehensive care, on presenting her research on improving data collection to the U.S. Commission to Eliminate Child Abuse and Neglect Fatalities.

**MS. SAKINA STRONG**, formerly a dental assistant at Hanson Place Dental in Brooklyn, New York, on being appointed a dental assistant at the Linhart Continuing Dental Education Program.


**DR. ANTHONY T. VERNILLO**, professor of oral and maxillofacial pathology, radiology and medicine, on co-chairing a mini-symposium entitled “Ethics Issues in Dentistry,” at the 8th International Conference on Ethical Issues in Biomedical Engineering at SUNY Downstate Medical Center; on coauthoring “Genomics, Ethical Issues, and the Practice of Dentistry” for the *International Journal of Medical Implants and Devices*; on authoring an editorial entitled “Doing the Right Thing in the Face of Scientific Uncertainty” for the *Journal of the Academy of Distinguished Educators*; and on coauthoring “Scoping Up Dental Education to Address Scientific Uncertainty: HPV and Oropharyngeal Cancer as a Case in Point,” also for the *Journal of the Academy of Distinguished Educators*.

Dr. Vernillo’s
coauthors included Dr. Michele J. Equinda, Class of 2015; Dr. Mary Northridge, associate professor of epidemiology and Health Promotion; Dr. Alexander R. Kerr, clinical professor of oral and maxillofacial pathology, radiology and medicine; and Dr. Arlene R. Curry, clinical associate professor of oral and maxillofacial pathology, radiology and medicine.

**DR. CHI TONGLIEN VIET**, a fifth-year resident in the NYU Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Program and adjunct professor of oral and maxillofacial surgery, on presentations entitled “Preclinical Studies of Head and Neck Cancer: Perineural Invasion and Metastasis” and “Role of Endothelin Axis in Head and Neck Cancer Invasion” at the Maxillofacial Oncology and Reconstructive Surgery session at the annual meeting of the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons (AAOMS).

**DR. RICHARD M. WELEDNIGER**, clinical assistant professor of cariology and comprehensive care, on authoring a dental language guide entitled “Saying It Effectively,” which was published by the Department of Cariology and Comprehensive Care.

**DR. MARK WOLFF**, associate dean for predoctoral clinical education and professor and chair of the Department of Cariology and Comprehensive Care, on being appointed to the editorial board of the *Journal of the American Dental Association*, and on presenting the keynote address, “Dental Caries Control: Forging Ahead” at the 2015 Malaysian Association of Dental Public Health Specialists (MADPHS) Scientific Conference and Annual Meeting.

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**We Want to Hear From You**

Please e-mail news of recent professional achievements to elyse.bloom@nyu.edu, and look for your name in Global Health Nexus.
Alumni Association Officers and Directors for 2014–2015

The NYU President’s Penthouse at Washington Square was the site in November for the installation of officers and directors of the Alumni Association for the 2014–2015 year:

**Officers**
- Dr. William Bongiorno, President
- Dr. Michael Leifert, President-Elect
- Dr. Amin Ayoub, Vice President
- Dr. Roya Afshar-Mohajer, Secretary
- Dr. Vera Tang, Treasurer

**Directors**
- Dr. Yakir Arteaga
- Dr. Angela DeBartolo
- Dr. Adam Eisenberg
- Dr. Courtney Linnenberg
- Dr. Maureen McAndrew
- Dr. Marjan Moghadam
- Dr. Steven Resnick
- Dr. Glen Rochlen
- Dr. Maria Rodriguez
- Dr. Mark Schlesinger
- Dr. Rada Sumareva
- Dr. June Weiss

From left: Dr. Amin Ayoub, Dr. William Bongiorno, Dr. Vera Tang, Dr. Roya Afshar-Mohajer, Dr. Michael Leifert.
Dr. Ernest Baden, ’50: Holocaust Survivor, Lifelong Scholar

Dr. Ernest Baden’s path to NYU CUD was filled with challenges. It began in 1933—the year in which the Nazi Party became the legal government of Germany—when Dr. Baden and his immediate family fled Berlin for Paris. Leaving behind relatives they would never see again. In 1941, again under imminent threat, this time from France’s Vichy government, Dr. Baden and his parents had to flee again with visas from Uruguay. They boarded the SS Wyoming on May 15, 1941, bound for Uruguay by way of Fort de France, Martinique. The Vichy admiralty ordered the captain of the ship to sail instead to Casablanca, Morocco, where all so-called stateless Jewish passengers were arrested and interned in concentration camps.

Released in early 1943, Dr. Baden resumed his undergraduate studies in Casablanca, earning his bachelor of philosophy degree on September 27, 1943, from the University of Algiers. He then moved to Algiers, where he began to study dentistry at the Faculty of Medicine.

In 1945, Dr. Baden returned to a liberated France and continued his studies, earning a dental degree from the University of Paris in 1947. Despite this qualification, Dr. Baden found that he was unable to practice dentistry in France because he was not a naturalized French citizen. Fortunately for Dr. Baden, he was awarded a scholarship to the University of California San Francisco (UCSF) School of Dentistry. He did not graduate from UCSF, however, because he would have had to complete a four-year program, which he thought too lengthy since he already held a French State dental degree.

“But NYU accepted me, and, because of my prior degree in dentistry, allowed me to complete all of my clinical requirements in just one year,” says Dr. Baden, laughing, as he recalls navigating this requirement. After completing his dental degree at NYU and taking further hospital training, Dr. Baden served during the Korean War as chief of oral surgery at the USAF Hospital at Westover Air Force Base in Massachusetts, from 1953 to 1955. In the decades that followed, Dr. Baden’s never-ending desire for knowledge would lead him to learning opportunities and teaching positions around the world, and across multiple university campuses.

In 1964, Dr. Baden earned an MD degree from the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Geneva in Switzerland and a master’s degree in pathology from NYU. In 1981, he returned to NYU CUD, this time as a part-time faculty member, teaching oral medicine and oral pathology for the next decade. In 2002, he completed a PhD degree in comparative literature at the University of Nice in France. “I always enjoyed my time at NYU CUD,” says Dr. Baden. “As a matter of fact, it was thanks to Dr. Charles Darlington, then chairman of the Department of Pathology, that I was inspired to pursue my studies in pathology.” For several decades, Dr. Baden was Professor of Pathology at Fairleigh Dickinson University School of Dental Medicine, where he founded and chaired the Department of General, Special, and Oral Pathology.

Today Dr. Baden is an Affiliate Professor of Clinical Biomedical Science at the Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine of Florida Atlantic University and also holds the title Professor Emeritus of Pathology, Fairleigh Dickinson University School of Dental Medicine. “I have had an immensely rich and productive life,” says Dr. Baden, and “NYU CUD was pivotal in making it possible.”

Alumni in the Spotlight

’40s
DR. BRUCE DOUGLAS, Class of 1948, on being featured in an article entitled “Bruce Douglas: Retired But Not Really” in the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) News. Dr. Douglas is professor of health and aging at UIC’s Center for Research on Health and Aging and an adjunct clinical professor of environmental and occupational health sciences at UIC’s School of Public Health.

’60s
DR. JOEL WEINSTEIN, Class of 1968, on the publication of his children’s book, Uri’s Dream: Educating Children for Dental Health, which is available in English, Hebrew, and Yiddish.

’80s
DR. MAXINE FEBNIG, Class of 1980, on being installed as president of the American Dental Association.

’90s

’00s
DR. EDUARDO RODRIGUEZ, Class of 1992, professor and chair of the Department of Plastic Surgery at the NYU Langone Medical Center, on receiving the 2013 William J. Gies Award for Outstanding innovation by a Dental Educator.

In Remembrance

Dr. George P. Argerakis, clinical professor of prosthodontics
Dr. Charles Cacciopoto, former faculty member, Department of Cardiology and Comprehensive Care
Dr. Haskell Guuber, Class of 1948
Dr. Stanley Heller, Class of 1949, former faculty member, Department of Cardiology and Comprehensive Care
Dr. Herbert S. Keningsberg, Class of 1965

Dr. James Darasak Keoboumna, Class of 2008
Dr. Irving Peress, Class of 1940
Dr. Chris Philip, Class of 1953
Dr. Felix J. Portelli, Class of 1955
Dr. Jennifer Taylor, Class of 2008
Dr. Clinton J. Watkins, Class of 1951
Dr. Calvin L. Wong, Class of 1961

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