

2018 Commencement

For many School of Dentistry students the donning of their lavender sashes at graduation marks not only completion of their degrees, but also the realization of a dream. This year the School of Dentistry awarded degrees...
to 81 students and post-graduates, including Eddie Ramirez. Now a proud graduate, Ramirez was featured in the program and recognized for his efforts to overcome significant obstacles and achieve a dream he has held since the age of eight, to become a dentist.

“The OHSU School of Dentistry has a 119-year tradition of graduating leaders in their respective fields,” said Phillip Marucha, D.M.D, Ph.D., dean of the OHSU School of Dentistry. “Our graduates represent the bright future of oral health care, exhibiting compassion and impeccable clinical skills. There is no doubt that the class of 2018 will continue this long-lived tradition.” 2018 Commencement Highlights and Graduation video.

June Dean’s Seminar speaker explores the role of dendritic cells in a mobile microbiome

At his lab in Augusta, Georgia, Christopher Culter, D.D.S., Ph.D., and his cross-disciplinary team in the Augusta University Transplant Center began with observation that oral infections are a major factor in kidney transplant failure. To understand the mechanisms involved between chronic
periodontitis and kidney transplants Culter, a microbiologist by training, has honed in on the key role of dendritic cells. Applying the concept of a keystone species, his work tracks dendritic cells in the microbiome. In his presentation he discussed how a "structural defect" enables dendritic cells to transport bacteria through the blood stream and disseminate pathogens from an oral infection to distant sites in the body.

For physicians, Cutler's proof of concept study makes a strong case for including antibiotic therapy as a part of initial therapy to reduce systemic inflammation and reduce bone damaging cells by disrupting the dendritic conversion process.
2018 Monetti Award

The Terry Monetti Award is given to a DS2 student who both excels in the area of prosthodontics and exemplifies the giving spirit of Terry Monetti who the award commemorates. This year Chase Carlson received the award for his service and skill in prosthodontics. We thank Artisan Dental for their sponsorship of this award.

(Chase Carlson receives the Monetti Award above)
Awards Ceremony Slide Show

In the lead up to graduation on May 16, the Class of 2018 came together for one of their final class gatherings, the much anticipated Senior Awards Presentation. There were smiles, looks of surprise, handshakes of congratulations, and even a few hugs from mentors as students were recognized for their outstanding achievements. Award winners:

- Academy of Osseointegration Implant Dentistry Award: Fadi Shaya
- American Academy of Esthetic Dentistry Student Award of Merit: Noelle George
- American Academy of Implant Dentistry Award: Kellie Kawasaki
- American Academy of Oral Medicine Award: Awbrey Landon
- American Association of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery Dental Implant Student Award: Kellie Kawasaki
- American College of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery Student Award: Bryan Rogers
- Certificate of Merit Oregon Academy of Pediatric Dentistry: Eddie Ramirez
- Hanau Best of the Best Prosthodontic Award: Philip La Lande
- ICD Humanitarian Award: Tyrel Mortenson
- Jerome Schell/Gary Wilson Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery Memorial Award: Jason Mah
- Oregon Society of Periodontists Award: Yvonne Morgan
- Pierre Fauchard Academy Award of Recognition: Shannon Schober
- Quintessence Award for Clinical Achievement in Periodontics: Awbrey Landon
- Quintessence Award for Clinical Achievement in Restorative Dentistry: Sara Edmondson
- Sorum-Xia Award in Endodontics: Tyrel Mortenson
- Western Society of Periodontology Award: Kimberly Gibbs
Research team recognized for high-impact work

A recent publication in the Journal of Tissue Engineering from researchers in the laboratory of Luiz E. Bertassoni: "Messenger RNA for Tissue Engineering and Regenerative Medicine Applications" was selected to the list of “high impact” papers. Tissue Engineering is the Premier journal in the field. The journal article explores strategies of synthetic IVT mRNA modifications and nonviral technologies for intracellular delivery. Congratulations to Siddharth Patel, Avathamsa Athirasala, Paula P. Menezes, N. Ashwanikumar, Ting Zou, Gaurav Sahay, and Luiz E. Bertassoni on their publication!
Community Dentistry awarded Health and Human Services grant

This week the School of Dentistry and its Russell Street Dental Clinic (RSC), under the direction of Dr. Beverly Cutler, received a grant award from US Department of Health and Human Services to continue work providing training to oral health professionals. The grant, in the amount of $280,000 supports training provided through a partnership with the Multnomah County Health Department, Cascade AIDS Project and area dental hygiene training programs. First funded in 2002, the Community-Based Dental Partnership Program increases access to oral health care services for people living with HIV while providing education and clinical training for dental care providers, especially those practicing in community-based settings. Dental and hygiene students in the program participate in discussions on the problems encountered by HIV positive clients and oral problems associated with immune dysfunction and also receive training on issues related to the provision of culturally competent services. Under the direction of community-based faculty the students each have the experience of providing direct care to ten HIV positive patients while on rotations. Dr. Eli Schwarz, the chair of Community Dentistry serves as the lead on the grant. Congratulations Dr. Schwarz, Russell Street Clinic and partners!

Dental student J. Ryan Thrower recognized for her leadership in diversity
Congratulations to J. Ryan Thrower, M.P.A., SOD class of 2020, for her nomination for the Diversity and Inclusion Outstanding Student Leadership Award at the Diversity Awards held on June 12. The award honors a student who has made outstanding contributions to the promotion of diversity, equity and inclusion within and through service to the community. Ryan was recognized for her leadership with the American Student Dental Association and volunteer work with two mentorship programs for high school and college students. She frequently speaks to middle school students to encourage younger students of color to consider careers in the field of dentistry. 

2018 Diversity and Inclusion Awards

New SOD Faculty Senate representatives elected

Congratulations to Lisa Greene D.D.S. for her election to a second term and Nasser Said-Al-Naief DDS, MS to his first term as representatives for the School of Dentistry. SOD has four representatives on the senate. Newly elected senators will serve Sept. 1, 2018 through Aug. 31, 2021. Thank you Drs. Greene and Said-Al-Naief for your service!

NEW EMPLOYEES

Tarn Allen joined the SOD in May 2018 as Grants & Contracts Coordinator. Born and mostly raised in Portland, Oregon, Tarn has spent the majority of
her career managing programs, grants, and data at nonprofit social service organizations in our community, including Oregon Food Bank, Clark County Food Bank, and most recently, Impact NW. She looks forward to applying her skills in a new sector, supporting the academic and research work done here at OHSU SoD. Tarn holds a BA in art history and Romance languages (French and Italian) from University of Oregon, and enjoys spending time with family and pets, dancing, and helping to advance her very competitive pub trivia team!

Dr. Michael Dienberg joins the SOD Hospital Dental Services team as an Assistant Professor in the General Practice Residency/Adult Hospital Dentistry program. He comes to us from Arkansas Children’s Hospital where he was appointed in the Children’s Hospital and the CDE Center for Dental Education. Dr. Dienberg completed his GPR training in Arkansas and received both his DDS and his undergraduate degree from Marquette University. In addition to his hospital dental experience, Dr. Dienberg has been providing leadership in the development of the Epic Wisdom module, first as a Physician Superuser and currently as Chair of the Epic Dental Steering Board. When he is not working, he and his wife and 2 kids are eager to hike and backpack and explore Portland.
Mari Hiner, M.M., C.S.P.M., C.S.P.D.T., has joined the OHSU School of Dentistry as the new Sterile Processing and Inventory Supervisor. Most recently, Mari served as Central Sterile Supervisor at Legacy Emanuel Medical Center. She possesses certifications in Sterile Processing Management and Sterile Processing and Distribution. An honor graduate of University of Southern California and teaching fellow of University of Oregon, Mari holds her Master’s in Music and has recorded multiple sound tracks and made special ability actress appearances in film and television.

Melissa Huff is excited to join the School of Dentistry as the Referral Coordinator, which she calls the catalyst for her desire to return to OHSU after a brief hiatus. She previously worked as an Administrative Coordinator for the Office of Clinical Affairs and most recently had the opportunity to
work in Environmental Services as a Supervisor. She built her career through a variety of roles and industries with the majority of her experience in Financial Services and Healthcare. She is not only used to wearing many hats, but sincerely enjoys it and “thrives in an environment where the work is dynamic.” She will be supporting the Patient Financial Services department in her new role as a Dental Referral Coordinator and is thrilled at the possibility of being involved in improving current processes and working to create new ones. She welcomes SOD faculty and staff to come say hello as she enjoys reconnecting with old friends and fostering new relationships!

Carlos Jurado, D.D.S., M.S.D., joins the SOD team as an Assistant Professor in Restorative. He received his D.D.S. from the Michoacan University of Saint Nicholas of Hildalgo in Mexico in 2008, Certificates in Restorative and Operative Dentistry from the University of Southern California and a Certificate in Prosthodontics and Master of Sciences in Dentistry from the University of Alabama at Birmingham. He serves as a Diplomate with the ACP, ABOD and FRCD(C). His enthusiasm for dentistry started at early age. Going to his regular dental check-ups and for his orthodontics appointments woke-up an admiration for dental care providers. Then, during dental school, he discovered he enjoyed the challenge of complex and esthetic cases so decided to get further training.
Bryan Tervo, D.D.S. will soon join the SOD as the General Practice Residency Program Director. He is a 1994 graduate of Ohio University and a 1998 graduate of the Ohio State University College of Dentistry. He completed a GPR at St. Luke’s Medical Center in Cleveland, Ohio in 1999. Over the past 19 years, he has had various practice and teaching opportunities including Harvard University, Tufts University, University of Cincinnati, and owning his own private practice in southwest Ohio. For the past 5 years, he has served as the Associate Director of the GPR at the Ohio State University. Dr. Tervo is married to Kristy, and has 2 sons: Colin, 15 and Patrick, 13.

Morgan Zimmerman joins the SOD team as a patient access specialist. She has been volunteering at OHSU for the last year talking with patients and various admin tasks and is excited to become an official member of the
campus. Morgan constantly works to make everyone's experience the best possible by building strong relationships with those she works with and with clients. She brought that strong sense of service to every client in last five years working as a licensed massage therapist. She is originally from Salt Lake City, Utah, but fell in love with Portland while attending Reed College. In her spare time she enjoys reading either fiction or mindfulness books, watching musical theater, spending time with her cat, November, and is in the process of perfecting her sewing skills.
Welcome new SOD Residents

Endodontics welcomes: Amir Arad, Wells Brockbank and John Wiens


Periodontics welcomes: Angel Bello-Rivera, Irene Louie, Danielle Plesh

Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery welcomes: Bryan Rogers, D.M.D. (1 year
intern), Jennifer Bergstrom (6 year program, starting Med School), Danielle Ploussard (6 year program, starting Med School)

Othodontics welcomes: Tylor Brekke, Madeline Kelley, Puja Patel and Shannon Schober

Faculty Forums: Characteristics of Future Dentists

Wondering what is happening with the Curriculum Initiative Group (CIG)? This summer the CIG will be holding a series of forums for faculty on proposed changes to the curriculum. The forums will be participatory sessions to define the characteristics students need to become successful dentists and align curriculum with the development of these characteristics. The forums are an opportunity for faculty to have direct input into curriculum changes and will provide the groundwork for the Fall Retreat in September. Forums are on Mondays 12:15-1:30 in 3A003 July 9 and 23, August 6, 13 and 27, and September 10.

GROW program enrollment
GROW Conversations trainings are now open for enrollment for employees and managers transitioning to the GROW model. School of Dentistry transitioned to GROW Jan. 1, 2018. Employees need to schedule their GROW conversations twice a year with their managers.

**Summer run group at the March Center**

Want to start your day energized this summer with a 40-60 minute run? Join other OHSU runners Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at the March Wellness Center for an informal run group for OSHU employees and March members. All paces are welcome! The March Center has a range of fun summer activities and classes that include group standup paddle boarding from just $10. [Summer Runs and More on South Waterfront](#)

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**Tram Closure: sit back and enjoy the ride**

With the Tram closed until July 30 and parking expected to sell out most days on Marquam Hill during the closure, those traveling between the hill and South Waterfront are encouraged to take a shuttle or--for the more
adventurous—to bike. According to Sharon McKay, administrative assistant for the Endodontics and Orthodontics program, the three new Endo residents who utilized the shuttle to attend orientation on Monday reported waiting less than five minutes for "door to door service." The residents also remarked that the shuttles are "roomy and air conditioned for a comfortable ride" to and from your destination.

Fortunately for those traveling to and from RSLB is a stop on Moody Ave. directly in front of the building with shuttles scheduled every 10 minutes throughout the day. The one downside may be that, depending on traffic, the shuttle ride can take from between 15 and 30 minutes each way, which is substantially more 6 minutes travel time on the Tram. So if you are traveling by shuttle allow a little extra time and enjoy the ride. Tram Closure Updates and Shuttle Information

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
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| July 4 | **Holiday School of Dentistry is Closed**  
*OHSU Holiday information* |
| July 9 | **Faculty Curriculum Forum #1** with the Curriculum Initiative Group. All faculty are invited  
3A003B  
12:15-1:30pm |
| July 11 | **RLSB Anniversary Breakfast**  
Celebrate 4 years in the Robertson Life Sciences building with a free breakfast, 3A003  
9:30-10:30am |
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 16</td>
<td>All Faculty Monthly Meeting</td>
<td>3A003B</td>
<td>12:15-1:30pm</td>
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<td>July 20</td>
<td>White Coat Ceremony &amp; Reception</td>
<td>PSU Lecture Hall 1A001</td>
<td>5:30-7:30pm</td>
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<td>July 23</td>
<td>Faculty Curriculum Forum #2</td>
<td>3A003B</td>
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<td>Aug 3</td>
<td>Western Dean's Conference</td>
<td>School of Dentistry</td>
<td>8:30am-3:30pm</td>
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<td>Aug 6</td>
<td>Faculty Curriculum Forum #3</td>
<td>3A003B</td>
<td>12:15-1:30pm</td>
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<td>Aug 13</td>
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<td>3A003B</td>
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<td>Aug 27</td>
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<td>3A003B</td>
<td>12:15-1:30pm</td>
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<td>Sept 10</td>
<td>Faculty Curriculum Forum #6</td>
<td>3A003B</td>
<td>12:15-1:30pm</td>
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<td>Save the Date!</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SOD Fall Conference</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>All faculty and staff Monday Sept. 17 8:30am - 5pm, faculty only Tuesday Sept 18 8:30am - 12pm</td>
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| 18  | **Sept 18**  
|     | **Save the Date!**  
|     | Department meetings 12:30-5pm                                                                |