

News from the Student Research Group

TUFTS UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE

Volume 2, Issue 2

June 2011

San Diego welcomed 63 Tufts presenters at the IADR



Nikki Shakourian, Hubert Park, Sheila Soroushian, Cathy Zhao, and Arman Samad-Zadeh—part of the Tufts pack.

It was the “Tufts pack” - the group of TUSDM students, staff and faculty who were at each Tufts presentation to support their peers. In the Oral Session rooms, a large group of Tufts people would enter together to listen to a Tufts presentation, and the group might account for over half of the audience. In the Poster Sessions, Tufts students, staff and faculty came armed with the list of poster

numbers and made sure to visit each of the Tufts posters. As every presenter remarked, it was great to see all of that support.

All counted, Tufts had 63 people presenting at the meeting (see pages 2-4 for a complete listing of presenters). A record thirty-five predoctoral students traveled to San Diego to present research at the meeting. Seven postgraduates and twenty-one faculty and staff were also presenting at the meeting.

One of our students, **Urvi Ruparelia D12**, received the First Place award in the Junior Category of the AADR/Johnson & Johnson Healthcare Products Hatton Awards Competition. Urvi was one of 27 AADR student

-members selected to compete, by means of an oral presentation, in the competition on Wednesday, March 16th. Based on her presentation, she was awarded the First Place award in the Junior category. She also had her poster displayed at the IADR/Unilever Hatton Awards display.



Urvi Ruparelia presenting her poster at the IADR/Unilever Hatton Awards display booth.

Upcoming Deadlines:

- **OCTOBER 3RD**—
ABSTRACT SUBMISSION
DEADLINE FOR THE AADR
MEETING IN TAMPA, FL

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SRG Officers—Changing of the Guard

The 2010-2011 SRG Officers of Samantha Jordan, Rebekah Lucier, Hubert Park and Jeremy Plourde are officially 'off-duty', and we thank them for their hard work. The new 2011-2012 officers are looking forward to another great year!

President—Catherine DeFuria
Vice President—Jeremy Plourde
Secretary—Julianna Bair
Treasurer—Urvi Ruparelia



News from the Student Research Group



Marek Ogledzki explaining his poster to Dr. Weber at Bates Day

AADR POSTER PRESENTATIONS

- David Nill, D13
- William Moore, D12
- Brian Cook, D11
- Jeremy Plourde, D13
- Tofool Al Ghanem
- Wanda Wright
- Shakeer Sundaralingam
- Sarah Stipho
- Yong Hur
- Marjorie Baptiste
- Fatema Al Rayes
- Sheila Soroushian, D11
- Susan Macdonald
- Kacey Mahoney, D13
- Ronald Perry
- Rebekah Lucier, D11
- Catherine DeFuria, D12
- Ashley Brown, D13
- Pamela Corrado
- Elizabeth Tzavaras
- Jeffrey Brown, D12
- Urvi Ruparelia, D12
- Nikki Shakourian, D12
- Eunice Lee, D12
- Farah Assadipour, D11

Bates Day 2011 a Success

The rooms and hallways on DHS 14 and 15 were again abuzz with activity for Bates Day 2011. There were 50 poster presentations and 21 commercial exhibitors taking part in the day-long festivities on March 2, 2011.

Our Keynote Speaker was **Janet Hock**, BDS, PhD. Dr Hock is the Executive Director of the Maine Institute for Human Genetics and Health, and she spoke of her experiences on "Taking Stem Cells Out of the Lab and Into the Clinic."



We also had a surprise visitor to the dental school dur-

ing the poster presentations: **Dr. Anthony Monaco**, the incoming Tufts University President, had a meeting scheduled with Dean Lonnie Norris that day. Dean Norris was happy to show President -Elect Monaco around, and they spent a great deal of time talking with many of the presenting students.

Congratulations to all of the students who worked hard on their research. They all did a phenomenal job of presenting their work to the faculty judges as well as to their peers.

The award winners are listed on the last page of this newsletter. Many thanks to the donors who

give money for the awards:

- Drs. Kane (D74), Tesini (D75), Soporowski
- Dr. Chad Anderson (D04)
- Dr. Kistama Naidu (D02)
- Dentsply International
- Massachusetts Dental Society
- The Proctor & Gamble Company



Serena Kankash presented her poster to Dean Norris, President-Elect Monaco, and Associate Dean Kugel.

Jeffrey Tsai and Helen Fassil—CRTP Fellows

Two members of the D13 class will be away from Boston next year, taking a year off from dental school to conduct clinical and translational research with world-renowned scientists as part of the NIH Clinical Research Training Program.

Jeffrey Tsai and Helen Fassil were the only dental students accepted for this highly competitive program that is designed to attract the most creative, research-oriented medical and dental students to spend a year engaged in a mentored research project

that matches their personal interests and goals.

In recent years, Tufts Dental has had an incredible student presence on the NIH campus. Samantha Jordan, D11, spent the 2008-2009 school year

at the NIH and Urvi Ruparelia, D12, spent the 2009-2010 school year there, both part of the NIH Howard Hughes Medical Institute Research Scholars program.



Jeffrey Tsai and Helen Fassil will be spending this next academic year conducting research at the NIH in Bethesda, MD.

2010-2011 SRG Update, by Samantha Jordan



Jonathan Ip, Erica Stutius, Carolyn Ferrick, Laura Rein, and Ashley Brown at the SRG abstract submission pizza party

This past year has been a very active and exciting one for the Tufts Dental Bates Student Research Group (SRG). The Bates SRG is a student-run organization that promotes student research in dentistry and its related disciplines. Our main goal is to foster a supportive and engaging environment for students interested in enriching their dental education through research.

◆ Lunchtime Lectures

Dr. Gerard Kugel, Associate Dean for Research, kicked off the 2010-2011 year with an inspiring talk during our general interest meeting. Later in the fall, we were honored to have **Dr. Jonathan Garlick**, Professor in the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology, speak about the stem cells and the future of dentistry. We began the winter semester with a thoughtful seminar from **Dr. Marcelo Suzuki**, Assistant Professor in the Prosthodontics and Operative, about his

specialty in maxillofacial prosthetics. The goal of our lunchtime seminars is to provide students an opportunity to interact with research faculty in an interactive, small group setting. We aim to continue providing such high-quality lunch seminars in the coming year!



Drs. Garlick and Kugel accepting thank you gifts from the SRG Officers at the Andrews Society Dinner.

◆ New Events

This year our SRG Board introduced a few new ideas. In the fall, we had a **pizza party** to celebrate students who submitted abstracts to the IADR/AADR conference. We also had an **inter-school social** event with fellow Boston University and Harvard dental research groups. Both of these events were planned to provide an opportunity for students interested in research to interact with each other in a casual and comfortable setting.

◆ Bates Day

During Bates Day, we introduced a new "Peer-Reviewed" Award – this award is unique because

it's the first award to be completely decided by students. The goal of this new award was two-fold: 1) we wanted to encourage student presenters to see the other posters and share their own with their peers, and 2) we wanted to give students the opportunity to recognize the hard-work of their peers.

The Bates SRG also made its **Facebook** debut – if you haven't already, "Like" our page! It's an easy way to keep up to date with student research news at Tufts Dental. We hope that students were able to form new connections and strengthen existing ones through all of these different initiatives. Next year we are hoping to keep the energy going and continue to increase student participation. If you have any ideas for the upcoming year or if you'd just like to get more involved, we would love to hear from you! Please let us know by either emailing [Cat at Catherine.DeFuria@tufts.edu](mailto:Cat@Catherine.DeFuria@tufts.edu) or [Julianna at Jin-Hwei.Bair@tufts.edu](mailto:Julianna@Jin-Hwei.Bair@tufts.edu).



Sheila Soroushian, Corey Decoteau, Catherine DeFuria, Urvi Ruparelia, and Samantha Jordan at the SRG abstract submission pizza party.



Samantha Jordan, 2010-2011 SRG President

AADR POSTER PRESENTATIONS:

- Masly Harsono
- Nicole Mahoney, D13
- Abdulaziz Altamimi
- Susana Ferreira
- Wen Tao
- Lily Hu, D12
- David Miyasaki, D13
- Derek Nobrega, D12
- Matthew Finkelman
- John Morgan
- Jonathan Ip, D12
- Mansour Alaskar
- Eileen Saunders, D11
- Ala Ali
- Britta Magnusson
- Lindsay Fox
- Eileen Doherty
- Hubert Park, D11
- Michael Neglia, D12
- Marek Ogledzki, D12
- Nick Freda, D13
- Elizabeth Kaminsky
- Mabi Singh
- Ramya Bhat, D12
- Alana Bednarz, D12

News from the Student Research Group

Robert R. Andrews Research Honors Society Awards Dinner



Andrews Society Officers with the new student inductees.

One of the highlights of the year for student researchers is the Andrews Honors Society Dinner, held during Senior Week in May. At this dinner, the Bates Day award certificates are given out, the plaque for the ADA/Dentsply Award is presented by our Dentsply representative, and students and faculty are inducted into the Robert R. Andrews Research Honors Society.

AADR ORAL PRESENTATIONS:

- Chris Choi, D12
- Carolyn Ferrick, D12
- Julianna Bair, D13
- Medha Singh
- Corey Decoteau, D12
- Paul Stark
- Erica Stutius
- Jeffrey Tsai, D12
- Yumi Ogata
- Laura Rein, D13
- Cathy Zhao, D11
- Arman Samad-Zadeh, D11
- Athena Papas

The dinner was held in the 15th floor Alumni Lounge, and our speaker for the evening was David Walt, PhD, Robinson Professor of Chemistry at Tufts University. The Walt Laboratory at Tufts is world-renowned for



David Walt accepting a Certificate of Appreciation from Samantha Jordan

arrays to study fundamental aspects of biochemistry, genetics, cell biology, olfaction, and they also develop practical

ways to measure such things as water and air contamination. The title of Dr. Walt's talk was, "Dental Medicine: Connecting the Mouth to the Brain"

ways to measure such things as water and air contamination. The title of Dr. Walt's talk was, "Dental Medicine: Connecting the Mouth to the Brain"



Eunice Lee accepting the ADA/Dentsply award from Joel Monteiro, Key Account Manager, Dentsply North America.

The Andrews Society Faculty Inductees announced at the dinner were **Dr. Wanda Wright**, **Dr. John Morgan**, and **Dean Lonnie Norris**. The list of student inductees is on the next page.

Alayna Corden, D14—NIDCR Summer Dental Student

Alayna Corden is traveling to Bethesda, MD for eight weeks this summer, as a recipient of the NIDCR Summer Dental Student Award.

Alayna is one of 14 dental students from around the country who was selected for this outstanding summer research training opportunity. The NIDCR Summer Dental Student Award is designed to give talented dental students hands-on research experience and exposure to the

latest advances in oral health research.

Alayna will be working in the research laboratory of Dr. John (Jay) Chiorini. Dr. Chiorini is chief of the Adeno-Associated Virus Biology Section of the Molecular Physiology and Therapeutics Branch of the NIDCR. His research interests are adeno-associated virus, vector development and Sjögren's Syndrome.



Alayna Corden, D14

Busy Summer of Research Ahead!

Twenty-two students have been funded to do summer research with various faculty members this summer through the **TUSDM Summer Research Fellowship Program**. The funding was determined after a competitive review of research proposals handed in to the Research Committee back in April.

There are also approximately fifteen other students who will be working on company-sponsored materials research projects this summer.

If you are a faculty member with a research idea that could use a student, or if you are a student who is looking to get involved with dental

research, contact Eileen Doherty for help. There may still be time to get a small project up and running for this summer!

Urvi Ruparelia, NSRG Secretary

Urvi Ruparelia, D12, is currently serving as the Secretary for the AADR National Student Research Group (NSRG). Her term on the Executive Board of the NSRG began at the AADR Annual Meeting, held last March in San Diego.

All student members of the American Association for

Dental Research (AADR) are automatically members of the National Student Research Group (NSRG). The function of the NSRG is to encourage students to participate in academic research and scholarship. This most often takes the form of mentored research experiences, but ranges from informal student projects to doctoral-level

programs. The NSRG informs students of travel and presentation opportunities, provides travel/research awards, promotes communication among local student research groups (SRG), fosters future members of the AADR, and encourages students to consider academic research as a career possibility.

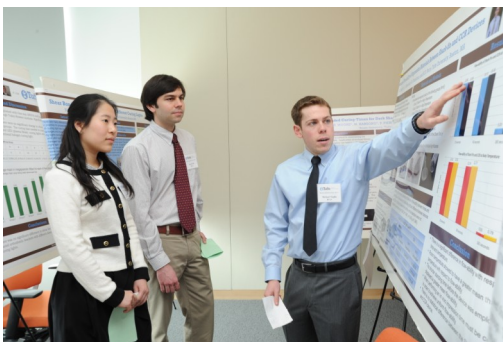
Feel free to contact Urvi Ruparelia for any information regarding the NSRG or the AADR.



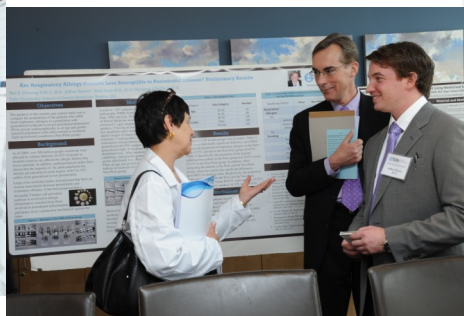
ANDREWS SOCIETY INDUCTEES:

- Julianna Bair, D13
- Ashley Brown, D13
- Jeffrey J. Brown, D12
- Chris Choi, D12
- Carolyn Ferrick, D12
- Nicolas Freda, D13
- Jonathan Ip, D12
- Kacey Mahoney, D13
- Nicole Mahoney, D13
- David Miyasaki, D13
- Michael Neglia, D13
- David Nill, D13
- Laura Rein, D13
- Urvi Ruparelia, D12
- Michael Schiffman, D11
- Erica Stutius, D12
- Jeffrey Tsai, D12

Bates Day photos



Michael Neglia showing his poster to Eunice Lee and David Nill

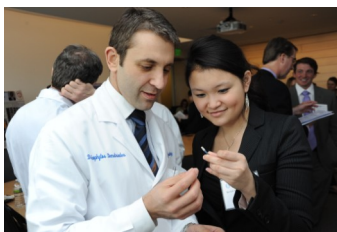


Dr. Athena Papas, Dr. Gerard Kugel, and Jeffrey Brown



Ramya Bhat and Dr. John Morgan

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The Tufts University School of Dental Medicine's Student Research Group is a student-run organization to foster an environment whereby students interested in diversifying their dental education are encouraged to do so.

The primary objective of SRG is to aid TUSDM students in ensuring that research is seen as a vital aspect of dentistry. SRG hopes TUSDM students recognize the benefits of incorporating research into their education. The SRG aims to provide TUSDM students with various research opportunities and expand the critical thinking skills of those students involved.

The Mission of the TUSDM SRG is to incorporate intellectual diversity through the discipline of research.

Check us out on
 Facebook!



Bates-Andrews Day Prize Winners

Best Postgraduate Poster Presentation:
Dr. Ala Ali, "The Influence of Different Convergence Angles and Resin Cements on the Retention of Zirconia Copings"

Best Scientific Research Presentation by a Senior:
Rebekah Lucier, "Whitening Products Delay Repithelialization in a 3D Wound Healing Model"

ADA/Dentsply Student Clinician Award for Best Overall Table Clinic:
Eunice Lee, "Effect of Chlorhexidine on the Bond Strength of a Self-Etch and Total-Etch Adhesive to Dentin"

Second Place Award for Predoctoral Table Clinic:
Cathy Zhao, "Angiogenic and Wound Repair Potential of ES and iPS-derived Fibroblasts"

Third Place Award for Predoctoral Table Clinic:
Jeremy Plourde, "Marginal and Inter-

nal Fit of E4D CAD/CAM All-Ceramic Crowns"

Research Committee Award for Basic Science Research:
Julianna Bair, "FAK/Src-Depleted Fibroblasts Alter Epithelial-Stromal Crosstalk and Enhance Human Carcinoma Progression"

Massachusetts Dental Society and ASDA Public Health Award:
Ramya Bhat, "The Association between BME and Early Childhood Caries"

Omicron Kappa Alpha (OKU) Hilde Tillman Award:
Maureen Timmeny, "The Association Between Temporomandibular Disorders Symptoms and Obstructive Sleep Apnea"

Procter & Gamble Traveling Fellowship Award:
Nicolas Freda, "Light Consistency and Heavy Consistency with in Group Comparison"

Dr. Chad Anderson Family Award for Innovative Methodology and Research Design:
Sheila Soroushian, "Rinse Time of Hemostatic Retraction Pastes"

Multicultural Award for the Advancement of Dental Research:
Corey Decoteau, "Bond Strength of Multi-Step Cements to Enamel and Zirconia"

Oral Health Disparities Award:
Jeffrey Tsai, "Dental Treatment of Developmentally Disabled Patients Requiring Anesthesia"

Bates Student Research Group "Peer-reviewed" Award:
Julianna Bair, "FAK/Src-Depleted Fibroblasts Alter Epithelial-Stromal Crosstalk and Enhance Human Carcinoma Progression" and
Laura Rein, "Self-Assembly of Engineered Stromal Tissues Derived from Human Pluripotent Stem Cell"