

The MULTICULTURAL MIRROR

One School  Many Cultures



Photo: Per Kjeldsen

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Dinella L. Crosby
editor

Welcome!

Welcome to all dental school students, staff and faculty. This academic year begins with tremendous excitement as we prepare to navigate through very significant milestones. Our university is celebrating its bicentennial in 2017 and it is an honor for all of us to serve this great institution of "leaders and best" during this special time. Our Multicultural Affairs Committee (MAC) is celebrating "Twenty Years of MAC!" The School of Dentistry has made significant contributions to President Schlissel's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion initiatives; through this process we have learned that our MAC is a very unique entity on our campus. Many schools and units are just beginning to bring together students, staff and faculty to encourage diversity, equity and inclusion while the dental school has enjoyed the benefits of working together synergistically for twenty plus years. We celebrate all past and present deans, faculty, students and staff who have contributed to the success of the MAC. We are looking forward to your participation in several activities, training sessions and celebrations that will take place this year that will help us remember our past, acknowledge our present and prepare for a bright future. On behalf of the Multicultural Affairs Committee I welcome all of our newest dental school family and thank you in advance for the contributions you will make to help us live out our mission of "Advancing health through education, service, research and discovery," in a humanistic way!

Go Blue! Dr. Todd V. Ester, Director, Diversity and Inclusion

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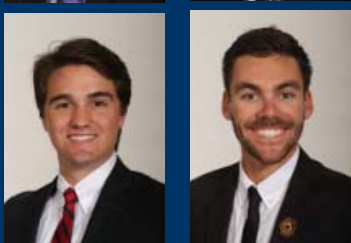
**SCHOOL OF
DENTISTRY**

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Meet The Dental School Class of 2020

by Hiba Hawasli, DDS, MS

Photos by Per Kjeldsen



During the July Orientation for our new dental students of the class of 2020, we asked these new D1s to answer a few questions concerning their background, whether they have any relatives working in healthcare professions, how they spend their free time, why they decided to pursue dentistry, which best travel experiences they had, and about interesting facts about themselves. A total of 97 of the 109 D1s volunteered some answers and so we can tell you a little bit about our newest dental student class.

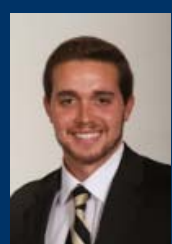
Entering students' backgrounds

Sixty-two of the entering D1s are from Michigan and 47 from out-of-state, with some students even from Canada and South Korea. This year, 59% of the students are male and 41% are female. The youngest D1 is only 20 years old and the oldest is 42 years. Thirteen students reported having a spouse or partner, and one student even has two children. 37 students have a family member who is either a dentist, dental hygienist, or works in another health profession. Of the entire class, 9 mothers and 11 fathers were reported to have been a dental or health professional! Grandparents, brothers, sisters, aunts, and uncles were reported as well.

Choosing dentistry as their future profession

Deciding to pursue dentistry is a major life decision. One student had decided by age 3 to become a dentist! Overall, 51 students decided by the end of high school, at the age of 18, to pursue a dental degree; 34 students decided during their undergraduate years between the ages of 19 and 22 years to go into dentistry and only 8 students were older than 22 when they decided that dentistry was for them.

When we asked why the students wanted to become dentists, the answers ranged widely. Many of their answers were related to wanting to work with or help patients. A total of 27 students wrote that they like to have a profession that allows them to help others. Some students were more specific and told us that they want to "help people smile," "help improve self-esteem and self-confidence," or "help underserved and underprivileged patients." A dentist's involvement with the community and being a part of healthcare



Meet The Dental School Class of 2020 (continued)

by Hiba Hawasli, DDS, MS

Photos by Per Kjeldsen

was also mentioned multiple times. Eight students like dentistry because of the longstanding bond dentists often have with their patients. Many of them described how they enjoyed teaching and wanted to educate patients about oral health care. Others described that human contact was important for them, and that they love working with others. Dentists' lifestyle was another feature of dentistry that was attractive for many students. They valued the autonomy and the work-life balance that dentists have. The idea of owning a private practice and being independent was a great benefit for some students. One very common response was also that dentistry allows them to use their hand skills. A lot of students liked the combination of art, science, people skills and business management that dentistry offers. Overall, the descriptions of the reasons for entering dental schools showed a lot of enthusiasm for dentistry and excitement to be able to become a dentist.

What do our D1s like to do in their free time?

When asked what the D1s like to do in their free time, the absolute majority of the class, namely 75 students, mentioned some type of sports, physical activities or exercise such as playing basketball, soccer, tennis, golf, lifting weights, running, swimming, working out, yoga, and even dancing. In addition, 32 students mentioned that they liked outdoor activities such as hiking, snowboarding, skiing, fishing, boating, sailing, camping, mountain biking, and rock climbing. We hope very much that their busy life as dental students will not keep them from continuing their sports activities and that these activities might even provide them with an opportunity work out and enjoy sports with each other.

About a third of the class also enjoys reading, playing video games, and watching T.V./movies. Only 17 students like to cook or bake – which is unfortunate for the rest of us who might benefit from their hobbies. But several students draw, paint, or do craft projects and a few like to play an instrument during their free time like guitar, piano and violin. We hope that these students will contribute their talent to our dental school talent show.

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Meet The Dental School Class of 2020 (continued)

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Many students like to spend time with their family and friends by going out to a concert or theatre performance, to the movies or shopping, exploring new restaurants or simply hanging out. Some students like to travel to different places.

Travel

When we asked the D1s to share their favorite travel experience, we were amazed how widely they had travelled. While the students seemed to have travelled all over the U.S. to places like New York, Montana, Wyoming, Florida, California, Michigan, Minnesota, Alaska, Tennessee, and Boston, others reported about wonderful travel experiences outside of the U.S. like the Caribbean. Quite a number of students had travelled to Europe and some mentioned that they had their best experiences in these places because they got a chance to learn and experience new cultures and languages. The beautiful sights these places had to offer made these trips memorable. Some of the students visited their family in these foreign countries and enjoyed the culture their families are a part of. A few had been to the Middle East visiting Israel and Jordan. Many students had also participated in mission trips to Costa Rica, Honduras, Guatemala, Peru, Guyana, Tanzania, Panama, Dominican Republic and India. Their experiences during these trips were described as unforgettable and as having impressed the students very much. Some students even enjoyed going on visits to dental schools with their friends.

Interesting Facts

Our last question was about interesting facts that make the D1s unique and we received many fascinating answers to this question. Many students come from different ethnic backgrounds and some of them mentioned that they know more than one language or love to learn a new language.

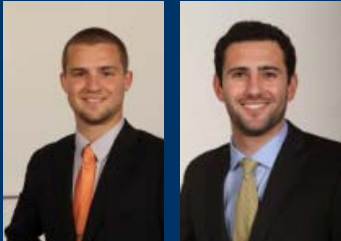
Some students wrote about their special interest in music such as playing guitar. One mentioned that he taught himself how to play the electric guitar. Others wrote about sport and their hobbies such as swimming, scuba diving, hunting, skiing, mountain-climbing, playing baseball, golf, basketball, football, soccer, skydiving or snowboarding. Many of the D1s stated that they have been playing these sport for a long time, for an example, one wrote that he played basketball for 10 years, and another student talked about her family's interest in skiing in the Rocky Mountains. One D1 was a girl scout for 11 years.



Meet The Dental School Class of 2020 (continued)

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Students also talked about what they like and don't like. Some students like to cook and bake for special occasions and holidays. One D1 mentioned that he cooks Thanksgiving dinner 4 times each year. In addition, few students wrote what kind of animals they like or used to own such as turtles, snakes, or a Maltese puppy.

Moreover, work and volunteer experience has an important aspect in some students' lives. Some D1s have experiences in farming such as working on a blueberry farm or with livestock care; others worked in different companies and have experience in many fields such as teaching, advertising, and even in dental care. One student mentioned that he volunteered at a nonprofit organization that provided dental care to many recovering drug addicts.

Some other interesting facts mentioned are being able to attach sunglasses to a glasses frame, having done dragon bound in college for three years, or having flown an airplane. One student mentioned that she cuts her own hair and loves to help the community by cutting hair for the homeless and underserved population.

We look very much forward to getting to know you all personally in the upcoming years!

Welcome to the University of Michigan!

Go Blue!

We would like to share with you favorite quotes from members of our dental school community. In this MM, Dr. Ester shares one of his favorite quotes with you:

"WE ARE BOUND IN AN INESCAPABLE WEB OF MUTUALITY, TIED TOGETHER BY A COMMON THREAD OF DESTINY. WHAT AFFECTS ONE DIRECTLY AFFECTS US ALL INDIRECTLY!"

Dr. M.L. KING, JR



Getting To Know Our New Dental Hygiene Students

by Devi J. V. Raghavan, BDS

Photos by Per Kjeldsen



We are happy to welcome our new class of dental hygiene students. Of the 30 female and two male DH2s who joined us after Labor Day, 30 participated in our "Getting to know you" survey during their August orientation and their responses provide a great opportunity to learn more about them, their families, interests, talents and experiences.

Family background

Seven of the new DH2s reported that they have a spouse/partner and two of them have one child each. Eight students have a family member who is a dentist or a dental hygienist. Two students have mothers, uncles, and aunts, one has a sister-in-law and interestingly one had already earned a degree in the dental field.

Choosing dental hygiene as their career

One student had decided to become a dental hygienist by the age of 13, and one relatively later in life when she was 28 years old. When asked about their reasons for choosing to be a dental hygienist, each and every one is very positive about their career choice and considers being a dental hygienist as a rewarding profession. Some DH2s like the flexibility that dental hygiene offers in balancing their work and personal life.

Interestingly, two students believe that this career can help them become a good dentist in future. Ten of them chose this career because they want to help their community and like to work with people. For example, four students wrote that they chose dental hygiene "to help people feel more confident about their smile". Three students were inspired by their experiences shadowing and working as assistants with dentists or dental hygienists. Four of them became interested in becoming dental hygienists while they themselves received dental treatment. Two students like the "hands-on" aspect of dental hygiene, three were interested to become a part of a health care team that promotes health and wellness, and one student mentioned that she likes the exciting nature of the profession, stating that "I have a lot of questions about oral hygiene and this is the only field that has always kept my attention".

Favorite hobbies and activities

It is great to find out that the new dental hygiene students are very dynamic and like to spend time engaged in various physical activities and sports, like running, kayaking, swimming, biking, bowling, playing golf, snowboarding, Zumba, hiking and camping. Some of them love to read books and spend time with their family and friends. Some of the other activities some DH2s like to do are scrapbooking, crafts, shopping, playing puzzles, cooking, playing with their pets, interior decorating, singing, sewing and also being involved in church activities. We look very much forward to getting to know these new DH2s and learning more about their hobbies in the future.

Getting To Know Our New Dental Hygiene Students (cont')

by Devi J. V. Raghavan, BDS

Photos by Per Kjeldsen

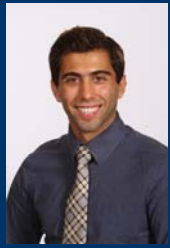
Travel experiences

Our new DH2s are well traveled and love to explore new places with their family and friends. They have memorable experiences travelling to various places in the United States like Florida, New York, Chicago, Virginia and also other countries like China, Canada, Africa, Ireland, Poland and the Middle East. Several students are nostalgic of their trip to Florida. One stated that being at Disney Land took her back to being a child once again. A few described that they liked the warmth and clear water of the beaches in Florida. Some have had an exciting experience in the state of New York. One student shared, "It was so much fun to explore the city and see the sights that you have only seen in movies!" A few mentioned how nature has mesmerized them when they visited the national parks in the U.S. Some have memories of travelling to their own or their parents' homeland to visit their families there or experience their lifestyle and culture. One student wrote, "My trip to Jordan a few years ago made me realize how good I have things in America, how fortunate I am and that I should be grateful for all my blessings."

Interesting facts

The new class of dental hygiene students shared a variety of interesting facts about themselves. Some are really good at sports including football, volleyball and billiards. Few are adventurous and like to travel a lot. One student has already traveled to 18 countries and another student is an adrenaline seeker looking forward to her next adventure. One student proudly states that he/she is from the Arctic Circle. Undoubtedly, there are several animal lovers. They are clearly a group of determined students and achievers. One student is expecting a baby; one was the president and valedictorian of the high school graduating class; one is a licensed esthetician and another student has worked in the medical field. While one student reports having taken dental assisting classes at age 16, one other has attended three different colleges in one year. Additionally, one student is very curious to learn about different cultures, another student is trilingual, and there is one student who can reenact the civil war.

We want to thank our new DH2s for sharing this information with us and look very much forward to getting to know them all over the next three years!



Getting To Know Our New Dental Hygiene Degree Completion and Master's Program Students



We are also pleased to welcome the E-Learning Degree Completion and the Master's Program (MSDH) students:

Back row from left to right: Rebecca Merryfield, Brandy Zantello, Andrea Butler, Brooke Boss, Megan Bilbeee.

Front row from left to right: Michelle Enos, Michelle Murdoch, Alexys Mitchell, Wafaa Nabils, Denise Guadiana & Christela Falcon

Religious Holidays during August – December 2016:

This list of religious holidays was provided by the UM Provost. Please note that this is not an inclusive list and that there are other holidays that were not included.

HOLIDAYS	FAITH	DATE(S)
Paryushan **	Jain	August 28
Id al-Adha **	Islam	September 11
Rosh Hashanah *	Jewish	October 2 - 4
Yom Kippur *	Jewish	October 11 - 12
Sukkot *	Jewish	October 16 - 18
Birthday of the Bab	Baha'I	October 20
Shemini Atzeret/Simchat Torah *	Jewish	October 23 - 25
10th of Muharram **	Islam	October 3
Diwali **	Hindu	October 30 - November 3
Birthday of Bahá'u'lláh	Baha'I	November 12
Birth of the Prophet Muhammad **	Islam	December 12
Christmas	Christian	December 25

Getting to Know Our New Faculty & Staff

Academic Affairs welcomes:

Dinella Crosby: Student Affairs Program Specialist
Zachary Marentay: Student Admin Assistant Assoc



Alesha Thomas: Student Administrative Assistant Intermediate. Alesha's role at the dental school is assistant to the school registrar. "I schedule rooms for meetings, events and classes for the school year, assist with the commencement ceremony, teaching evaluations, education/enrollment certifications and any other requests".

Alesha is from Kansas City Missouri and enjoys reading, any outdoor activity and spending time with her family.

Community Dental Center welcomes:

Maimoonah Riaz: Dental Hygienist

The School of Dentistry welcomes **Dr. Diana Ellis** as the new director of the Community Dental Center (CDC). She maintains her role as an adjunct clinical assistant professor in the Department of Cariology, Restorative Sciences and Endodontics and also serves as a consultant for the University of Michigan Student-Run Free Clinic through the Center for Interprofessional Education. She enjoys working with and mentoring student groups in their Pathways projects. Her practice has focused on serving disadvantaged individuals in the hospital and community dental settings. Dr. Ellis looks forward to partnering with community groups to strengthen CDC's role as a safety net dental home. In her free time, she enjoys spending time with her family, running and getting reacquainted with her home town.



Cariology, Restorative Sciences & Endodontics welcomes:

Peter Milgrom Adjunct Professor

Clinical Billing Office welcomes:

Peggy Page Senior Billing Clerk

Dental Faculty Associates welcomes:

Vicky Berthet Patient Services Associate

HR Shared Service Center welcomes:

Shante Galloway HR Generalist Associate

Periodontics welcomes:

Khaled Sinjab Dental Assistant Senior

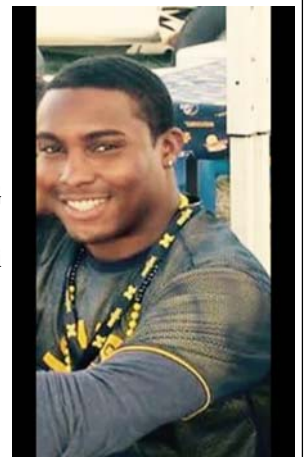
Periodontics & Oral Medicine welcomes:

Marta DeDecan	Res Lab Tech Assoc
Kendra Kasch	Patient Services Assist
Yee Sun Tan	Research Fellow

Patient Services welcomes:

Lynette Bridges	Dental Dispensing Assistant
Steven Colts	Dental Dispensing Assistant
Anjoli Denniston	Patient Services Assistant

Quintin Patilla joins Patient Services as a patient services assistant. Quintin's role at the School is to make sure that our patients registration, insurance and billing information is correct when entered into the database and "always putting a smile on patients faces". Quintin previously worked at the U of M hospital as a EMG Technician. He also worked in construction for a few years building multi-million and billion dollar buildings including the renovation of the "Big House" and the "FRIB" at MSU. In his free time, you can catch Quintin working out, watching football or helping someone.



Getting to Know Our New Faculty & Staff

Dean's Office / Faculty Affairs welcomes:

My name is **Katrice Yarrington** and I am the administrative assistance to Lynn Johnson, associate dean, Faculty Affairs & Institutional Effectiveness, and Erica Hanss, Chief of Staff.

I came to the School after working within the U of M Health System for over 17 years. My last appointment was in Pediatric Cardiology.

I like to spend my free time with family and friends.



Welcome CBDE Adjunct Appointments

Elise Boncher	Brian Carmody
Daniel DeNucci	Anitha Doma
Timothy Hill	Ester Jimenez
Cory Knape	Hillary Knight
Nicole Kooiker	Rebecca Liu
Jacqueline Mendoza	Jason Merrithew
Bonita Neighbors	Steven Niergarth
Andrew Olsen	Joo Young Rhee
Lauren Rule	Donald Swartzfisher
Brian Shipton	Lisandra Soto
Katelyn Trierweiler	Gytis Udry
David Van Slambrouck	Bryan Wazbinski
Joseph Williams	

Orthodontics & Pediatric Dentistry welcomes:

Aaron Bumann	Adjunct Clin Asst Professor
Lynne Corley	Patient Services Associate
Monika Sharma	Research Fellow

Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery / Hospital

Dentistry welcomes:

Mary Karim Dostie	Clinical Lecturer
Jason Leonhardt	Patient Services Associate
Laurie Martin	Patient Services Associate

Biologic & Materials Sciences welcomes:

Alice Goodwin	Research Fellow
Kaitrin Kramer	Research Fellow
Hamid Mortazavian	Research Fellow
Erin Semmens	Administrative Assistant Associate
Jennifer Shadrach	Grad Student Research Assistant
Bassam Shamoun	Research Laboratory Tech Senior

Photos provided by faculty and staff members

Upcoming Events

September 21, 2016	Taste Fest
November 10, 2016	Veterans Day Observance
January 16, 2017	MLK Day
March 2017	Women's History Month Tea

Multicultural Affairs Committee

<http://www.dent.umich.edu/student-life/extracurricular/multicultural-affairs-committee-mac>

MAC Co-chairs:

Henry Temple Cheryl Quiney

MAC members:

Amir Aryaan	Guneet Kohli
Dan Bair	Peter Liang
Rogério Castilho	Kiki Marti
Judy Craft	Ken May
Bonnie Dawson	Martha McComas
Wassim ElAwadi	Romesh Nalliah
Mary Jo Gray	Bonita Neighbors
Jae Han	Helena Ritchie
Elliott Hill	John Squires
Marita Inglehart	Rachel Vasquez
Milad Karim	

Ex officio:

Todd Ester



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