

The MULTICULTURAL MIRROR

One School  Many Cultures



Welcome to the Dental Class
of 2022!

Photo: Per Kjeldsen

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Raymond Hong

Welcome!

Welcome to all dental school students, staff and faculty. This academic year begins with tremendous excitement as we prepare to navigate through a very promising year. The School of Dentistry will break ground on our renovation and expansion project this fall. This project will renovate about half of our existing building and adds about 48,000 square feet. We are excited about this project and the opportunity it will give our dental school family to grow together. This is a fantastic time to be a "Wolverine" as we continue to develop our efforts of being a diverse, equitable and inclusive campus. The School of Dentistry has made significant contributions to President Schlissel's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) initiatives. This year our Pipeline to dentistry programs will be a highlight for the Campus-wide DEI Year Two Report. We are grateful to our MAC and our Strategic Plan People Domain efforts in helping us continue to grow and attract talented dental, dental hygiene and graduate students to our programs. Our Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion is receiving tremendous support from students, staff, faculty and alumni for our efforts especially our Profile for Success™ summer program. We are thankful for all of you who have contributed to the success of the MAC for over twenty-one years and invite you to join our committee. We look 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 our newest dental school members 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"!

Go Blue!
Dr. Todd V. Ester
Assistant Dean, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

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**SCHOOL OF
DENTISTRY**

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Meet The Dental School Class of 2022

by Raymond Hong Photos by Per Kjeldsen

During the July Orientation for the dental student class of 2022, we asked these new D1s a few questions about 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 103 of the 109 D1s volunteered some answers and so we can tell you a little bit about our newest dental student class!

Choosing dentistry as their future profession

Deciding to pursue dentistry is a major life decision. Three students decided already at age 5 to become a dentist! Overall, 40 students decided by the end of high school, at the age of 14 to 18, to pursue a dental degree; 43 students decided during their undergraduate years between the ages of 19 and 22 years to go into dentistry and only 9 students were older than 22 years when they decided that dentistry was for them.

When we asked what attracted the students to become dentists, the answers ranged widely. Many of their answers were related to wanting to work with or help patients. Most 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 patients’ self-esteem and self-confidence,” or “help underserved and underprivileged patients.” A dentist’s involvement with the community and being a part of healthcare was also mentioned by many incoming D1s. Five students like dentistry because they can have an ongoing relationship with patients. 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 work-life balance that dentists have, the office atmosphere, and the flexible schedules. The idea of owning a private practice and being independent was a great benefit for some students because they wanted to have a good work—life balance and time for their families. One very common response was also that dentistry allows them to use their hand skills.



Meet The Dental School Class of 2022

by Raymond Hong Photos by Per Kjeldsen



Many students liked the combination of art, science, social skills and business aspects which 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 our students have free time, the majority likes to engage in some sort of physical activity or exercise. This ranged from team based sports to simple leisure activities.



Many D1s mentioned enjoying playing tennis, basketball, football, volleyball, hockey, soccer, golf, skiing, swimming, and cycling. Students also exercise through yoga and lifting weights. Other activities include hiking, fishing, running, and skating. It is great to find out that so many of our D1 students engage in such a big variety of physical activities and exercises!



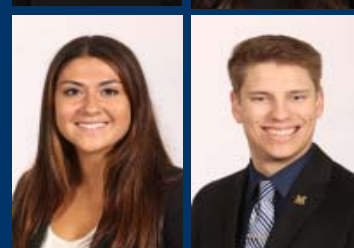
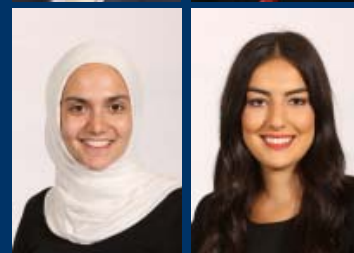
Other students enjoy spending time with family or friends. Eighteen students reported viewing entertainment, such as watching television shows or Netflix or going to the movies. Eight students mentioned their love for travelling and five 5 students enjoy cooking or baking. One student enjoys a good game of chess, while others enjoy spending time with their dogs or cats.



A number of students also engage in artistic behavior such as drawing, painting, dance, or photography. One student mentioned carving wood, while another mentioned drawing as a hobby. Our musicians include a pianist, a few guitarists, a singer, and a ukulele player. Many students also love simply listening to music.



Multiple students report enjoying outdoor activities, with a few saying simply that they like to be outdoors, while others specified specific activities. The most popular are camping, going to the lake, hiking, kayaking and enjoying nature.



Meet The Dental School Class of 2022

by Raymond Hong Photos by Per Kjeldsen



Travel

When we asked the D1s to share their favorite travel experiences, we were impressed by how far and wide they had traveled. Their travels included trips to countries in Asia, North America, Africa, South America, and Europe. Within the United States, students enjoyed visiting states such as Colorado, Florida, California, Nevada, and South Carolina. One student wrote about a spring break trip to Los Angeles and Las Vegas because it was spent with close friends.

Europe seemed to be the most popular destination outside of the US, with countries spanning from Belgium, France, Germany, Greece, Netherlands, Switzerland, to Spain. Several students were surprised and intrigued by the differences in culture and lifestyle as it was their first experience travelling abroad. Many enjoyed learning new languages and eating a variety of new foods. While most students travel to relax and have fun, some of our students mentioned their volunteer experiences as their favorite trip. One student mentioned participating in a medical mission to Peru, while also experiencing Machu Picchu. Other mission trip destinations included Nicaragua, Costa Rica, and Honduras. These students mentioned personal growth and the desire to help others in need. It was great to see all the interesting places the D1 students have ventured to. We hope they will have many more travel opportunities in the future!

Interesting Facts

Our last question was about interesting facts that make the D1s unique and we received many fascinating answers to this question. This ranged from eccentric skills to speaking multiple languages. Some students mentioned having a twin, while another is an only child. One highlighted their immense love for food, while another described a distaste for cheese. Several students mentioned playing instruments and one has over 250 raps recorded. A number of our D1 students also participated in various activities at the collegiate level. These include water polo, baseball, figure skating, cross country, track, soccer and acapella.

It seems a couple of D1's are huge fans of pets, particularly cats. One student has two tarantulas while another had a family pet raccoon. Another student has two birds named Romeo and Juliet.



Meet The Dental School Class of 2022

by Raymond Hong Photos by Per Kjeldsen



Some of the students mentioned extreme physical achievements. These include skydiving over 250 times, hiking the span of the Grand Canyon, and running a 50 mile race in the Utah desert. Other students have lived abroad in countries such as Mexico and Japan. One student has never broken a bone, while another has broken 4.

Other students came from different career paths before dentistry. One student has a public health background while another majored in landscape architecture. One of our students has visited Disney Land over 20 times, while another can wiggle their ears.

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 from Detroit's own Queen of Soul, Ms. Aretha Franklin:

"We all require and want R-E-S-P-E-C-T,
man or woman, black or white.
It's our basic human right."



Getting To Know Our New Dental Hygiene Students

by Raymond Hong

Photos by Per Kjeldsen



We are happy to welcome our new class of dental hygiene students. Out of the 23 new dental hygiene students, 22 have participated in our “Getting to know you” survey during their August orientation and their responses provide a great opportunity for us to learn more about them, why they choose dental hygiene as their career, and about their families, interests, talents and experiences.

Choosing dental hygiene as their career

Nine of the students had already decided by their teenage years to become dental hygienists, while the other 13 have decided in their twenties. When asked about their reasons for choosing this career, each and every one was very positive about their career choice and considers dental hygiene a rewarding profession. The majority enjoys helping others smile; others like the job flexibility and patient relationships.

Several students mentioned giving back to the community and wanted to further expand their knowledge. Three students love the dental environment, while one student loves cleaning. Three students want to improve the health of others. Three students were fascinated with teeth, and two students were inspired by other hygienists.

Family background

5 of the new DH2s have a spouse/partner, with one of them having at least one child. Four students have a family member who is a dentist or a dental hygienist. These family members include cousins, aunts, and a sister in law.

Favorite hobbies and activities

When asking our DH2s about their hobbies and activities, Six students mentioned spending time with family and friends, including one who enjoys playing with their daughter. Seven students also highlighted various physical activities, such as exercising, hiking, running, disc golf, marathons and more. Other hobbies include interacting with pets, church, travelling, music festivals, Netflix, cooking, reading, drawing, and simply relaxing. We very much look forward to getting to know the new DH2s and learning more about their hobbies in the future.

Getting To Know Our New Dental Hygiene Students

by Raymond Hong

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 of travelling to States in the U.S. such as Alaska, Colorado, Florida, and Tennessee. These trips mentioned weddings, spending time with friends, and more. Foreign countries visited include Egypt, Germany, Honduras, Jamaica Japan, Mexico, and Pakistan. Most of the DH2s who visited foreign countries emphasized the different culture and lifestyles. One student who visited Japan, spent their honeymoon in Okinawa learning about history and exploring the region. Students who visited Cancun and Jamaica mentioned the natural beauty of the places, saying it “looked like a postcard.” One student visited Honduras for a medical mission to being immersed in the culture and learning new things. The student who visited Egypt mentioned visiting various pyramids and museums, while another got to meet their family visiting Pakistan.

Interesting facts

The new class of DH2s shared a variety of interesting facts about themselves—ranging from unique traits to interesting talents. A few students mentioned their passion for sports, such as swimming, mixed martial arts, speed skating, and cheerleading. One student was adopted from China, while another was born in Japan. Other passions include cooking, painting, trying new foods, singing, and cats. One student hates riding go-karts while another loves Disney characters. One student hates spicy food while another cannot eat American food. Two students were competitive swimmers, with one almost making the Olympic trials. One student has even gone skydiving twice!

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!

Welcome to the University of Michigan!

Go Blue!



Master of Science: Dental Hygiene

by Filza Zaidi

Photo by Dr. Furgeson

MEET THE 6 Graduate students in the Dental Hygiene Masters' program CLASS OF 2020:

We are happy to welcome the six students in the class of 2020 Dental Hygiene Master's program in our school. While a lot of the teaching takes place on line, you will see the students in our clinics when they do their student teaching. One of these students will already start this September and will teach at least four half days in the clinics. The others will start later, but also spend considerable time involved in clinical teaching activities. All six students responded to our "Getting to know you" survey and here is a summary of the information they provided.



When asked about their family background, five students shared that they have a spouse/partner and three that they have children. One of the students has 1 child, another student has 2 children and a third has three children. But nobody had a family member in dentistry or dental hygiene.

When asked how old they were when they decided to get a dental hygiene degree, one student responded that she already knew when she was 13 years old and the oldest age of this decision was 26 years. Deciding to pursue a master's degree takes courage and time. Three students are motivated by wanting to help and educate others about improving their own oral health and the oral health of their community. One student described how she was inspired by a teacher who was an RDH and became determined to follow in her footsteps.

The last question was about interesting facts that make them unique and we received fascinating answers to this question. One student is a competitive indoor baton twirler who participated in competitions for the last 22 years and won 2 Pennsylvania state titles and 3 Northeastern Region World Class Championship competitions. One student can speak four different languages, namely English, Urdu, Punjabi & Hindi. One student can bake and decorate beautiful cakes and one gave birth to twins while she was a junior in the Dental Hygiene Program at the University of Michigan.

We look very much forward to getting to know you all personally in the upcoming years. Welcome to the University of Michigan. Go Blue!

Dental Hygiene Degree Completion E-Learning Program

by Filza Zaidi

Photos by Jennifer Cullen



Left to right: Melissa Rosado, Kim Curtis, Maggie Pillars, Allison Bittner, Alexandria Thurmond, Nancy Kyser, Dara Khanchaleunh, Rebecca Schmidt, Kelsey Atkins

Meet the new students in the Dental Hygiene Degree Completion E-Learning Program:

During the Summer Orientation for our new students in the Dental Hygiene Degree Completion E-Learning Program, nine students volunteered to tell us a little bit about themselves. Eight of these nine students have a spouse or partner and six have children. Two have a family member in the dental field, namely a cousin and a sister-in-law.

When we asked them about their reasons for choosing dental hygiene as their career, every one of them was very positive and motivated about this career choice and considered dental hygiene to be a rewarding and secure profession. Most of them enjoyed communicating and educating patients about the importance of oral health on a personal level and enjoy helping others when they are in need. One student was inspired by her own dental hygienist and one decided when she took some pre requisite courses at a Community college.

Many of these students in the Class of 2020 enjoy spending time with their family and friends, and watching Netflix movies with them or playing video games. A number of students also highlighted various physical activities like kayaking, working out in the gym and doing Yoga. Other hobbies included reading, and spending time with their dogs. One student is planning her wedding for later this year and is busy spending time with her fiancée. Another student likes to update her house (built on 1905) and making art projects for its decoration.

Dental Hygiene Degree Completion E-Learning Program

by Filza Zaidi

Photos by Jennifer Cullen

Most students are well travelled and love to explore new places with their family and friends. They shared memorable experiences of travelling to many countries and states around the U.S. One student had a chance of sleeping under the stars in a tent and experienced meteor showers. Another student had a great time in New York because she got engaged in Central Park at midnight on her birthday.

One student went hiking in California and saw her first bear there. One student won a national art competition and was then invited to Disney World. Several students had visited foreign countries such as Laos, Ireland and Jamaica. The student who went to Laos enjoyed her trip very much because she learnt more about her family background.



(L-R: Nancy Kyser, Rebecca Schmidt, Allison Bittner, Dara Khanchaleunh, Alexandria Thurmond, Kim Curtis, Kelsey Atkins, Maggie Pillars, Melissa Rosado)

The students also shared a variety of interesting facts about themselves such as that they loves to do DIY projects or have a Cosmetology license or are big Harry Potter fans - who even visited the Harry Potter World in Universal Studios. The student who will be getting married later this Fall, described her first date at her fiancé's grandparent's barn that burnt down while he was house sitting.

We want to thank all new students for sharing this information and look very much forward to getting to know them all over the next two years.

Welcome to the University of Michigan! And Go Blue!

Getting to Know Our New Faculty & Staff

The Department of Periodontics and Oral Medicine
Division of Dental Hygiene welcomes
Clinical Lecturer
Tami Grzesikowski, RDH, BS, MEd

Ms. Grzesikowski will be teaching in the Degree Completion E-Learning program starting this fall. She joins us from St. Petersburg College (SPC) in Florida where she was a faculty member and administrator for over 30 years. Her roles at SPC included Clinic Director, Program Director for the School of Dental Hygiene, and Dean of the College of Health Sciences. She led the development of the first baccalaureate degree for dental hygiene in the state of Florida and was a pioneer in developing some of the first online courses in dental hygiene in the country. She served as Senior Director for Allied Dental Education for the American Dental Education Association from 2012-2017. She currently serves as a reviewer for *Journal of Dental Hygiene* and on the CODA Dental Hygiene Review Committee. In her free time, she loves spending time with her family especially her new granddaughter, as well as playing pickle ball most mornings.

Welcome, Ms. Grzesikowski!



The Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery welcomes:

Dr. Justine Moe

Justine Moe who is an Assistant Professor and the Associate Director of Head & Neck Oncologic and Microvascular Reconstructive Surgery Fellowship in the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery. Dr. Moe graduated from the Dalhousie University School of Dentistry in Halifax NS. She completed a general practice residency internship at the University of California, Los Angeles. She completed an oral and maxillofacial surgery internship, residency and medical school at Emory University in Atlanta GA. She received fellowship training in Head and Neck Oncologic and Microvascular Surgery at the University of Michigan. In her spare time, Dr. Moe enjoys traveling, running and surfing. She is very excited to join the UofM team!

Welcome, Dr. Moe!

Photos provided by faculty members

Upcoming Events

We are happy to share with you some upcoming events:

- Oct. 10, 2018: Taste Fest,
12:00pm-1:30pm; Sindecuse
- Date TBD “Getting to know you” Brown Bag:
“Our students in Brazil”
- Oct. 24, 2018 LGBTQ+ Ally Training
2:00 pm–5:00 pm; FAL
- November 2018 Veteran's Day celebration
Date, Time & location TBD

Coming Soon -- Buoy at UMSD!

Buoy is a University of Michigan School of Dentistry email newsletter by students that is focused on highlighting bold, diverse, and authentic UMSD student stories. Buoy was birthed out of Founder Jordan Evans experience of failing the “Principles of economics” course as a Freshman at Brown in 2010. Be on the lookout for details for the on campus Buoy launch event happening during our upcoming Taste Fest festivities!

bu·oy | ˈboʊ,boi/ | Verb. to cause to become cheerful or more confident; to inspire

Stay Tuned!

Multicultural Affairs Committee

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

Mac Co-chairs:

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Henry Temple
& Carl-
Buchanan II

Faculty / Staff:

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Judy Craft
Bonnie Dawson
Lisa Dodge
Elliott Hill
Marita Inglehart
Kenneth May
Martha McComas
Romesh Nalliah

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Elizabeth Pitts
Cheryl Quiney
Helena Ritchie
Larry Salzmänn
Gloria Sdao
Marilyn Wersen
Katrice Yarrington

Students:

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Said Al-Jazaeri
Jae Han
Alexandria Horn-
er
Joshua Hurlburt
Jennifer Hsu
Katie Hu
Carla Jones
Milad Karim
Michael Korleski
Peter Liang
Shyrie Patel
Kelsie Pittel
Joesph Samona
Rahul Srivastava
Kayla Tillman
Rachael Vasquez
Neelege Watson
Mary Young



Religious Holidays during September- December 2018:

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.

HOLIDAY	FAITH	DATE(S)
Paryushan **	Jain	September 6, 2018
Id al-Adha **	Islam	September 1, 2018
Rosh Hashanah *	Jewish	September 9 - 11, 2018
10th of Muharram **	Islam	September 12, 2018
Yom Kippur *	Jewish	September 18 - 19, 2018
Sukkot *	Jewish	September 23 - 25, 2018
Shemini Atzeret/Simchat Torah *	Jewish	September 30 - October 2, 2018
Birthday of the Bab	Baha'I	October 20, 2018
Diwali **	Hindu	November 6 - 10, 2018
Birthday of Bahá'u'lláh	Baha'I	November 12, 2018
Birth of the Prophet Muhammad **	Islam	November 20, 2018
Hanukkah	Jewish	December 2 - 10, 2018
Christmas	Christian	December 25, 2018
Kwanzaa	Interfaith / African-American	December 26 - January 1, 2019

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