

# MOMENTUM

2017



EASTMAN  
INSTITUTE FOR ORAL HEALTH





*Eli Eliav, DMD, PhD*  
*Director, Eastman Institute for Oral Health*  
*Vice Dean for Oral Health, University of Rochester*

As I write this, I can't help but think about the millions of people still coping with the many recent tragedies, including our alumni and their families and patients. We continue to keep them in our thoughts and help those affected.

**The words 'thank you' do not effectively capture the heartfelt gratitude and appreciation I have for all the support, collaboration, participation and positivity that made our Centennial Celebration an overwhelming success!** As I watched the Eastman Institute family from 25 countries and 25 United States reconnect and celebrate together, it was a powerful reminder of how unique we are, and the extraordinary impact we've had on the world through exceptional education, research and clinical care (see story p. 4).

The growing master's program is now under Eastman's auspices, and enrollment is at an all-time high (p. 23). We extend a warm welcome to our new Foundation Board member, Ms. Michele Penrose, director of Global Professional Relations for Henry Schein Inc. (p. 45).

As we look to the next chapter in our story, the future is filled with continuing innovations and collaborations that set us apart. In typical Eastman fashion, we are increasing our efforts to level the playing field and close the gap for those who have been unable to access care. Our new SMILEmobile has been successful reaching new patients at refugee centers, nursing homes and for the first time ever, a college campus. We've expanded our teledentistry program to reach even more children with early childhood caries.

A top priority for us is our new unprecedented, inter-disciplinary clinic on the second floor of the main building, where we will soon begin construction (see story p. 18). Our patients will get optimal care and our residents will gain valuable experience working together in an integrated patient centered clinic. Residents will also have new, much-needed areas to study, socialize, and relax.

Vulnerable patients with medically complex conditions, such as the elderly, those with cancer and various immune deficiencies, as well as patients with developmental and intellectual disabilities, will receive the specialty care in a customized treatment room to accommodate their unique needs.

Please consider supporting this effort to maintain the high quality care and education to break down barriers and improve access around the world. Together, we can continue to educate and provide preventive services that will end the cycle. Thank you!

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Eli Eliav".

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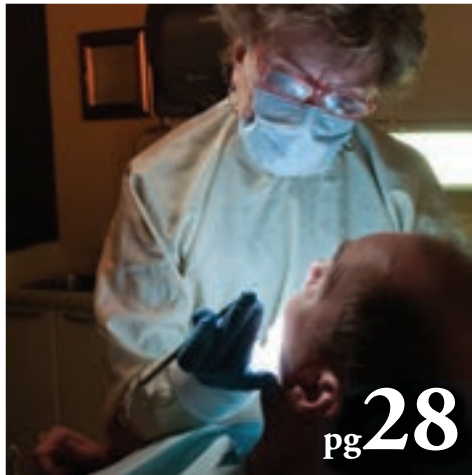
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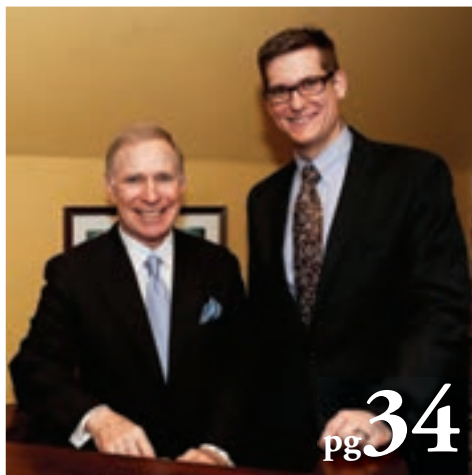
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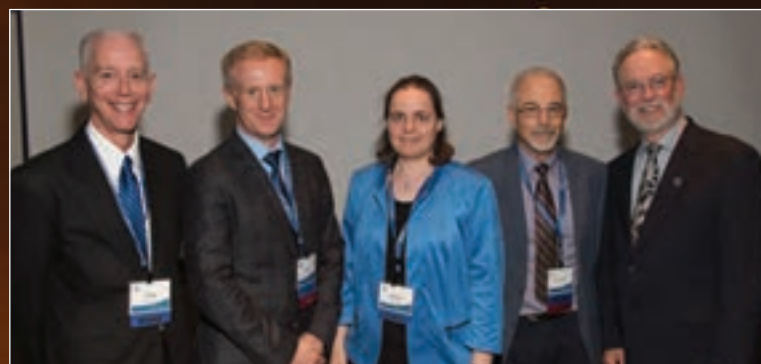
# The Future Starts Now



**A**bout 700 people from 25 countries and the same number of states heard from experts and specialists as Eastman Institute for Oral Health marked its 100th anniversary by hosting a scientific and educational symposium and Centennial Gala in June.



# Symposium Photos





“It was an outstanding conference,” said Dionne J. Richardson, DDS, MPH, State dental director/Title V Program, with the New York State Department of Health. “I was thrilled to be invited and elated to be a participant both as a presenter and attendee. I’m still relishing in the new connections I made, the rekindling of previous connections and the outstanding presentations.”

The keynote address “The Learning Health System: Transforming Individual and Population Health,” was delivered by Charles P. Friedman, PhD, chair, Learning Health Sciences Dept. at University of Michigan Medical School, and was followed by three presentations from national and local leaders. The first was titled, NIDCR: Guiding the Future of Oral Health Research and Innovation, and was presented by NIDCR Director Martha J. Somerman, DDS, PhD (Perio ’78, PhD ’80); Richard Valachovic, DMD, MPH, the president and CEO of the American Dental Education Association presented Preparing Graduates in 2017 for Practice through 2060; and Academic Health Centers and Their Communities: The Time is Now!” was presented by Nancy Bennett, MD, MS, director of UR’s Center for Community Health.

Presentations by other local faculty included Genes, Circuits and Behavior: Inside the Mind of a Worm by Douglas Portman, PhD; Molecular Genetics Revolution: Promise Fulfilled? by Charles A. Thornton, MD; and Empowering Technologies Around the World: Improving Equity, Improving Health by Timothy D. Dye, PhD.

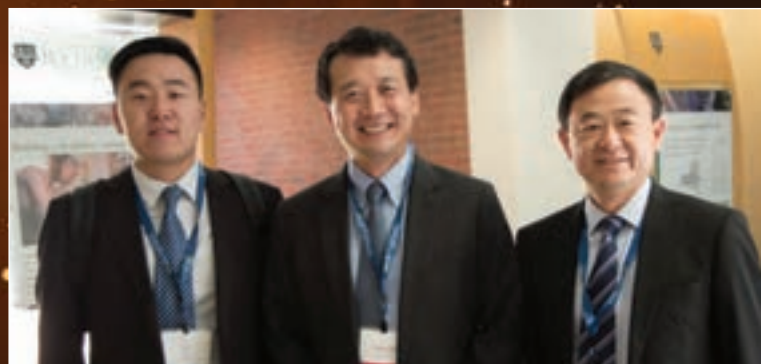
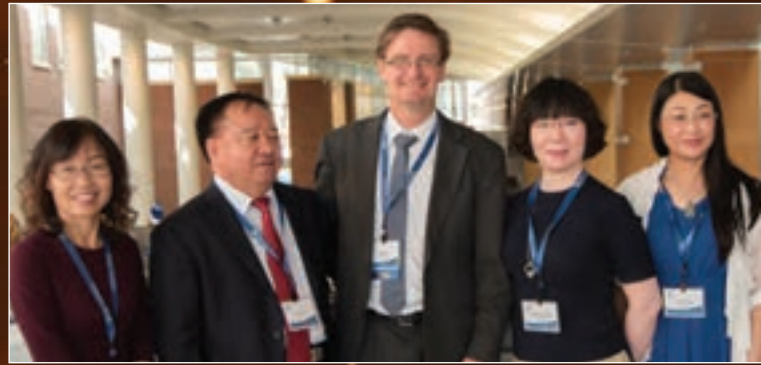
“Congratulations for such a great success of the Centennial Celebration!” said Fahad Al-Harbi, Dean, College of Dentistry, Imam Abdulrahman Bin Faisal University. “Thank you for your host and great welcoming. We highly appreciate our



*It was an  
outstanding  
conference.*

~Dionne J. Richardson







partnership with such a great institute. It was indeed a great honor for us to be a part of such a great celebration and scientific program.”

Also present were leaders from the George Eastman-founded dental dispensaries in Rome, Paris, London and Stockholm, who shared remarks about their long-term success and enthusiasm about partnering with EIOH for collaborative work among the five institutions.

“Thank you for your great kindness in inviting me to your centenary celebrations,” said Stephen Porter, BSc, BDS, Institute director and professor of Oral Medicine, UCL Eastman Dental Institute in London. “I was struck by one presumably retired academic who was surrounded by his former students who were each recalling their experiences of his teaching.”

Among the 65 speakers spanning all dental specialties and research, was Dr. Steve Perlman, who shared how his life changed dramatically when Eunice Kennedy Shriver approached him after struggling to find adequate dental care for her sister, Rosemary Kennedy. That meeting eventually evolved into Healthy Athletes, a successful and growing program that helps thousands of Special Olympic athletes receive the health care they need, and increases awareness among providers, and the public.

Author Eva Grayzel shared her story of how a misread biopsy led to a delayed diagnosis of stage 4 oral cancer, followed by surgery, radiation, and intensive treatment. Her powerful story, including thoughts of suicide and how it affected her family, spoke to the critical importance of oral cancer screenings, effective communication, and patient education. (Continued on p. 10)

*It was a privilege  
to participate in  
your event.*

~Eva Grayzel

Check out the Centennial section on the Eastman Institute website for photos, videos, history and more!







# International Alliance

In the early part of the 20th century, George Eastman knew the vital importance of good oral health, educating dental providers, and the necessity of dental and craniofacial research in serving those less fortunate in our communities. To accomplish this, he donated the funds to establish dental institutions in Rochester, London, Stockholm, Rome, Paris, and Brussels.

During the Centennial Symposium, the first step was taken to establish an Eastman International Alliance of the remaining five Eastman affiliates in Europe and the United States.

“Our goal is to leverage each of our interactions, interests, and internal resources to have an impact on improving the oral health of patients with special



needs and/or complex conditions and facilitating access to care worldwide,” said EIOH Director Dr. Eli Eliav. “Together, we can be a valuable resource for patients and families, caregivers, and health care providers worldwide to access information and assistance.”

The EIA will also seek opportunities to explore additional partnerships, including Special Olympics International, International Paralympic Committee, and the Special Care Dentistry Association, among other groups.

*Together, we can be a valuable resource for patients and families, caregivers, and health care providers worldwide to access information and assistance.*

~ Dr. Eli Eliav



“It was a privilege to participate in your event,” she said. “Thank you for the foresight and conviction in recognizing the importance of the patient perspective.”

Eighty post-doctoral residents, some who are pursuing PhD and master’s degrees, presented their research during the two-day event to several faculty, who judged each poster for various criteria.

“I was impressed by the fact that, in many cases, students finish a program and cannot wait to leave their respective universities,” said Gary Heir DMD, program and clinical director for the Center for Temporomandibular Disorders and Orofacial Pain at Rutgers School of Dental Medicine. “Yet, at the 100th celebration of EIOH, I met so many alumni from around the world who would not miss the opportunity to return.”

“It is an extraordinary research institution, it is an extraordinary educational institution,” said UR President Joel Seligman at the Gala. “This was, in a certain embryonic sense, the dream of George Eastman; but it achieved so much more than he could have ever believed. It was the pathway to our School of Medicine and Dentistry.

“It inspired Eastman to support the Strong Memorial Hospital, and it inspired him to support Eastman dental dispensaries around the world,” President Seligman continued. “What we have started here, with his dream of helping the most impecunious, those with the most limited needs and the children of Rochester, has now become an international institution.”

“George Eastman understood something very fundamental,” said Dr. Mark Taubman, CEO, University of Rochester Medical Center. “If you were really going to affect the health of the



*It is an extraordinary  
research institution,  
it is an extraordinary  
educational institution.*

~Joel Seligman, UR President







country, and the health of the people in Rochester, you had to do it through dentistry, medicine, and ultimately through nursing. He had the vision to understand the importance of placing medicine and dentistry next to each other.

“What is so special about being at a university and at a single campus,” he added, “is the ability for the Eastman Institute to move forward in partnership with the School of Medicine, School of Nursing and the University as a whole to grow in its research.”

Music, another love of George Eastman, was incorporated into the celebrations through the Eastman School of Music’s Eastman Saxophone Project, who performed a special fanfare they composed in honor of EIOH’s Centennial, among other musical selections, throughout the weekend. In her painting *A Vision Fulfilled*, artist Lynne Feldman captured the themes caring, diversity, science and photography to mark Eastman Institute’s centennial. The commissioned piece is comprised of fabrics glued onto canvas and then painted with acrylics.

Alumni receptions on Friday evening provided time for reconnecting and celebrating. Congratulatory remarks were sent from the president of the American Dental Association and the CEO of Henry Schein, the world’s largest provider of health care products to office-based dental practitioners.

An auction, dinner, dancing and festivities had the ballroom at the Hyatt Regency buzzing till after midnight.

“As we turn our attention to the next 100 years, we remain dedicated to serving the community, educating and training the next generation of specialists and advancing our knowledge through basic and translational research,” said Dr. Eliav. “Through innovation and state-of-the art treatment, we will do the best we can to bring quality and joy to thousands of people’s lives locally, nationally and internationally.”

The entire Centennial celebration throughout the year and the weekend was the result of many months of planning and executed by dozens of people who served on committees and volunteered

(Story continued on p. 14)



# Alumni Reception Photos







*Through innovation and state-of-the art treatment, we will do the best we can to bring quality and joy to thousands of people's lives locally, nationally and internationally.*

~ Dr. Eli Eliav





at the many events we hosted. Dr. Eliav extended special thanks to Drs. Cyril Meyerowitz and Bill Calnon and Mrs. Chris Guerinot who served on the executive planning committee; to Ms. Holly Barone and Mr. Bob Witmer who co-chaired the Community Service Subcommittee; and to Drs. Sharon Elad, Hans Malmstrom, Robert Quivey, and Carlo Ercoli for chairing the Research and Education and Advanced Clinical Service Joint Subcommittee. (Continued on p. 16)

# Gala Photos









An Eastman Institute tradition is an annual soccer tournament played by faculty and residents from Advanced Education for General Dentistry against the Periodontics and Prosthodontics Departments. This year was no exception, and AEGD maintained its title after a feisty, Sunday morning game. Final score 6 – 3. ■

Check out the Centennial section on the Eastman Institute website for photos, videos, history and more!





# Thanks to our Generous Centennial Celebration Sponsors



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## Gala Sponsors

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Reception rendering



**New clinics and major renovations will continue to keep Eastman Institute at the forefront.**



Concourse rendering

### Specialty Care Clinic

As part of Eastman Institute's commitment to provide access to high-quality dental care, construction will begin soon for a new Specialty Care Clinic—including seven operatories, central sterilization, and one IV sedation room (pending approval)—that will accommodate a variety of dental, physical, and behavioral needs. Located on the second floor of Eastman Dental's main building, the clinic will meet the unique needs of patients who have intellectual or developmental disabilities or complex medical conditions.

The majority of these patients are currently not receiving adequate care, as few dentists are equipped to accommodate them. Those who are receiving care are often treated under general anesthesia in an operating room—at greater personal risk and expense than is necessary.

“This Specialty Care Clinic is our top priority, as all of our dental residents will also receive hands-on training in caring for medically

complex patients,” said EIOH Director Dr. Eli Eliav. “Our graduates who incorporate specialty care into their own practice will benefit communities around the world.”

A special elevator, large enough to accommodate a stretcher, will be installed to serve only the first and second floors.

### Multidisciplinary Clinic

To treat the most complex cases, collaboration across dental specialties is key. The new, seven operator Multidisciplinary Clinic on the second floor will provide residents valuable experience working together in an integrated, patient-centered clinic. As a collaborative practice model becomes more common in dentistry, our graduates will be leaders in innovative approaches to treatment.

### Periodontology & Prosthodontics Clinics

The six periodontics operatories will be updated with new finishes, cabinetry, and equipment. Two new offices will be built for administrative staff, in addition to renovating the existing seminar





## EASTMAN INSTITUTE FOR ORAL HEALTH RENOVATIONS CONCOURSE

room to enhance its function as both a workroom and space for educational courses. A glass enclosure to the reception area will also be added to improve privacy.

### Director's Suite and Faculty Offices

The Director's Suite will be a prominent space on the sixth floor of Eastman Dental, with a functional office for the director as well as an adjoining reception and waiting room, suitable for meetings with constituents. A gift to name this Suite honors past, present, and future directors of Eastman Institute for Oral Health.

World-renowned faculty members, who are exceptional clinicians and researchers as well as devoted mentors to residents, are the backbone of Eastman. With this renovation, additional private offices for full-time faculty will help us recruit and retain the very best for each department.

### Leadership Boardroom

The Boardroom will be the largest and most prominent meeting room at Eastman Dental, used for lectures by notable academics and practitioners, training workshops, and exclusive events.





## EASTMAN INSTITUTE FOR ORAL HEALTH RENOVATIONS SECOND FLOOR CLINIC

In addition, the Eastman Dental Foundation Board and the Eastman leadership team will meet regularly in this space. Located on the seventh floor, the Boardroom will be equipped with state-of-the-art technology and a dividing wall that will allow privacy and flexibility.

### Resident Educational Suite

A team-based environment is a crucial part of a 21st century education and this Educational Suite will foster important collaboration among once silo-ed dental specialties. This space will provide much-needed areas for residents to study, socialize, and relax. Located on the concourse level, the Suite will be a large, high-traffic gathering spot with both lounge furniture and study carrels in an open, modern design.

### Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Clinic in Strong Memorial Hospital - \$1,000,000

An essential part of our clinical operation, the space at Strong Memorial Hospital will be renovated to better serve patients in need of oral surgery and oral disease treatment. General practice and oral medicine



Leadership Board Room rendering

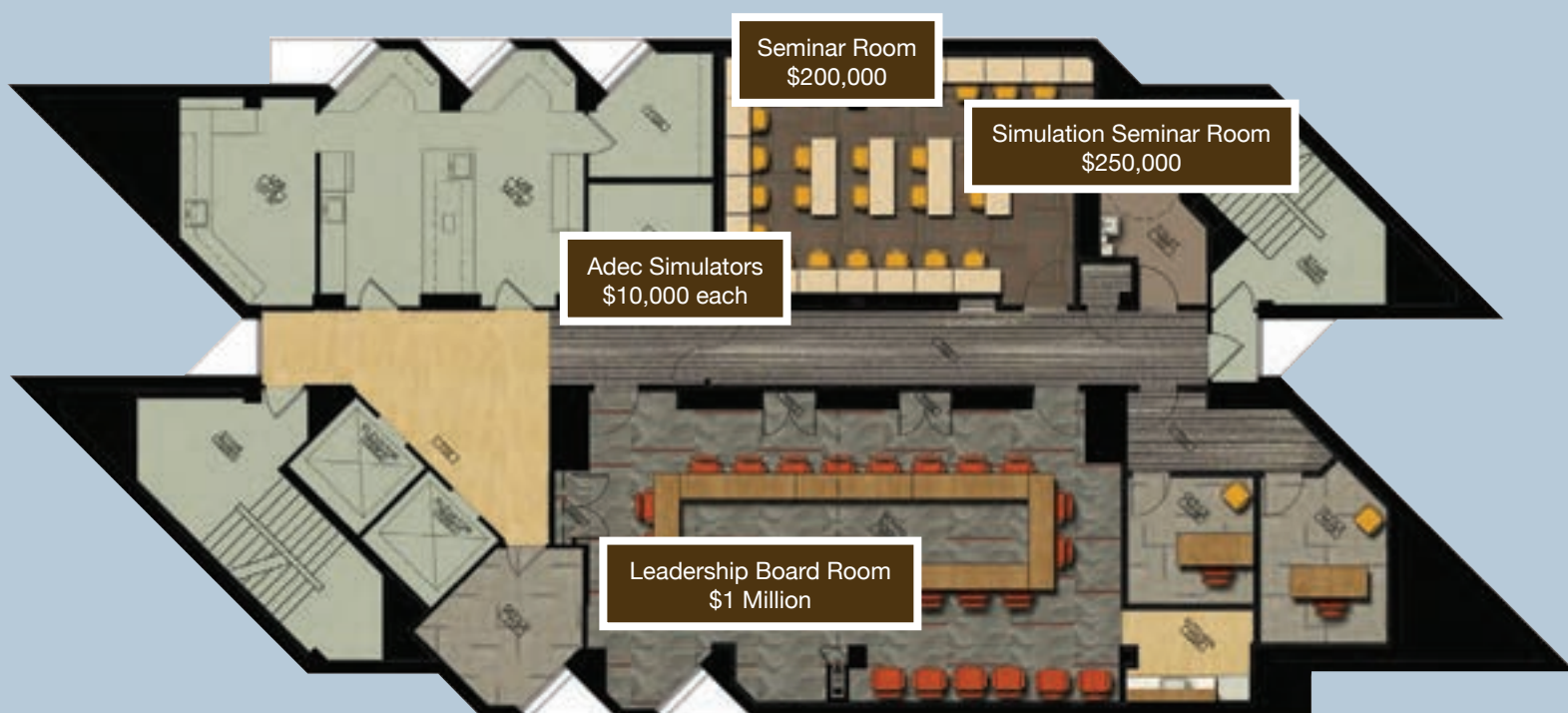
residents will join the oral and maxillofacial surgery residents in an expanded, collaborative clinic with two new sedation rooms and five recovery stations. This renovation will enable us to see nearly twice as many patients, vastly reducing the extensive wait time.

### General Dentistry Clinic - \$500,000

Located near the main entrance, the General Dentistry Clinic is a highly visible patient care area. General Dentistry has the highest volume of patients, providing advanced dental care to underserved patients across upstate New York. In addition, the clinic is a training ground for the largest group of dental residents each year. A gift to name the clinic will greatly improve this facility, adding essential technology upgrades, to enhance resident training and patient care. ■



Visit [www.EIOHPlans.urmc.edu](http://www.EIOHPlans.urmc.edu) for photos, floor plans, and naming opportunities.



## EASTMAN INSTITUTE FOR ORAL HEALTH RENOVATIONS SEVENTH FLOOR OFFICES

### Endowed Naming of the Director of Eastman Institute for Oral Health: \$3,000,000

Supporting the salary, benefits research space, special projects, programming and areas of critical need honor acclaimed leaders who perform groundbreaking research, mentor junior faculty, and attract and train talented dental residents and researchers. Naming the Director position would link a donor's name with excellence in worldwide dental leadership in perpetuity.

### Endowed Professorships and Teaching Fellowships: \$750,000 to \$1,500,000 or more

Professorships recognize and foster excellence and are among the most coveted and defining rewards that a faculty member can receive. These enduring funds will allow us to honor acclaimed leaders who perform groundbreaking research; teach and mentor dental residents, Ph.D. candidates, and junior faculty; and provide quality care to patients. Your generosity allows us to recognize, retain and recruit top leaders in academic dentistry and research. In addition, our support of teaching fellowships will ensure our practicing dentists and researchers are able to spend time educating future leaders in oral healthcare.

### Endowed Postdoctoral Fellowships: \$500,000 or more

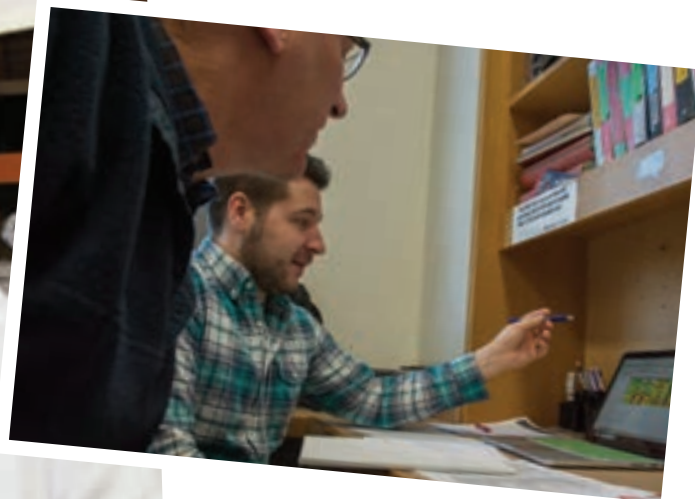
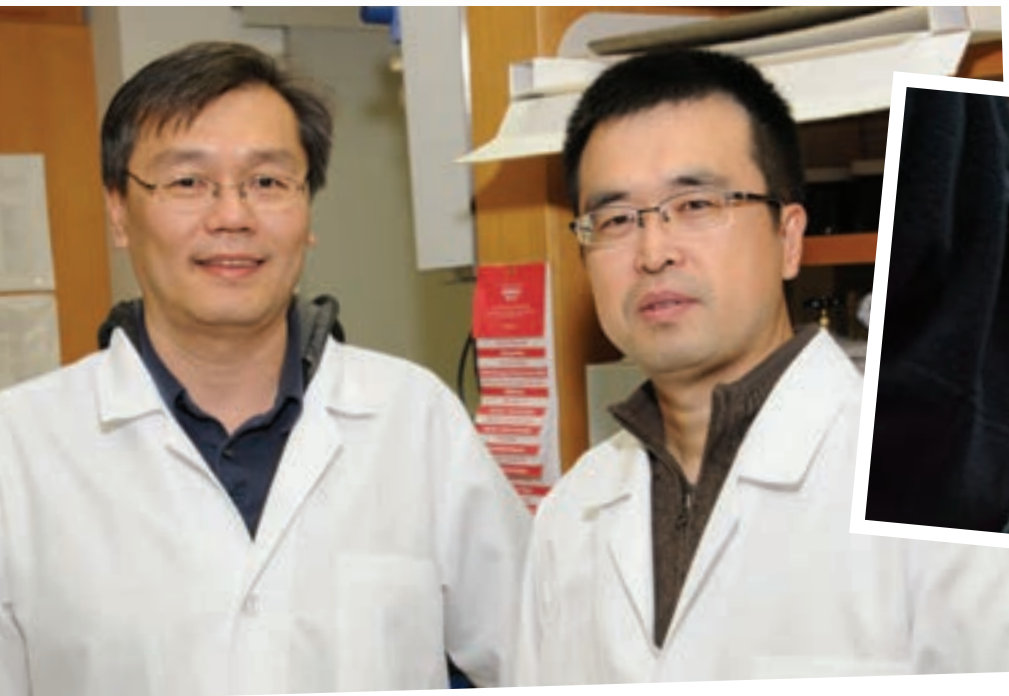
Endowed fellowships provide significant work experience for clinicians to hone their skills and further explore a dental specialty, or for scientists to conduct in-depth research that advances oral health. Fellowships for international students can support a clinical division or more than one division of your choice on a rotating basis.

### Research Innovation Funds: \$100,000 to \$999,999

Funding to support a laboratory or research project is vital to helping our dental residents, Ph.D. researchers, and faculty find better treatments and cures. You can support a young investigator, a new method for providing dental care, or a collaborative team working across disciplines and dental specialties on innovative discoveries and advances that will impact individuals around the world and in our community.

## Other Investment Opportunities





In 10 years, about 90 people have been trained at COB; most are still working in science.

## Center for Oral Biology Lands Third Research Training and Education Grant

**T**he Center for Oral Biology within UR Medicine's Eastman Institute for Oral Health has been awarded \$2.9 million to expand its renowned training program for oral biologists and dentist-scientists. This award includes Research Training and Research Education grants from the National Institute for Dental and Craniofacial Research, part of the National Institutes of Health.

Dentistry, Medicine and Dermatology. Robert Quivey, PhD, director, Center for Oral Biology, credits the renewal to the overwhelming success of the last 10 years.

"During that time, we supported nearly 90 trainees. Those included pre-docs --those who were pursuing their PhD's, and post-docs, who were receiving additional training beyond their PhD or dental degree," he explained. "Those trainees published 167 papers as first author, and 188 papers were published that included two or more trainees as co-authors."

In addition, nearly all of them are still in science or science-related jobs, which supports one of NIDCR's major goals: to ensure a highly qualified workforce is

research training and career development programs. These programs are intended to recruit and retain experts with the appropriate skills to conduct oral health research in an increasingly complex environment.

The grant supports students in a wide range of biomedical specialties, including biochemical mechanisms of disease, the origins of bacterial pathogenesis, the search for new medicines and other therapeutic approaches to treat disease, and new, fundamental knowledge in human immunology, and work in the etiology and progression of cancers.

At a time when NIH funding has been restricted to research and training, this renewal is especially meaningful.

"Thanks to Dr. Quivey's leadership, we've demonstrated our capability to train people to an advanced level through didactic and research work, by developing students' critical thinking, and building strong presentation and writing skills," said Eli Eliav, DMD, PhD, director, Eastman Institute for Oral Health and vice dean for Oral Health at the School of Medicine and Dentistry. "We're delighted NIDCR recognizes that we value team science, transformative approaches and diversity at all levels."

**We're delighted NIDCR recognizes  
that we value team science,  
transformative approaches  
and diversity at all levels. ~Dr. Eliav**

Awarded to COB for the third time, the latest five-year grant stems from a successful collaboration between the Center for Oral Biology, and the School of Medicine and Dentistry's departments of Pharmacology and Physiology, Microbiology & Immunology, Biomedical Genetics,

available to address the nation's basic and clinical biomedical and behavioral or social sciences research agenda. As part of this goal, NIDCR seeks to support an ample and diverse pipeline of well-trained and highly competent investigators through a variety of flexible and innovative



## Dr. Rasubala Awarded \$1 Million HRSA Grant

**L**inda Rasubala, DDS, PhD, assistant director of Eastman Institute's urgent dental clinic was awarded \$1 million from the federal government to pioneer and implement a training program centered on primary dental care for underserved populations using an Inter-Professional Primary Care (IPC) approach.

In the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Health Resources and Service Administration's (HRSA) effort to help transform health care in innovative ways, it awarded five-year Primary Care Medicine and Dentistry Clinician Educator Career Development Awards, six of them to dentistry. The awards allow a single primary care educator per institution to benefit from five years of training and education development.

Dr. Rasubala has already begun work on her winning proposal for this very competitive and prestigious award. She is developing a competency-based training curriculum in dental urgent care for Advanced Education in General Dentistry and General Practice Residency residents that directs patients into primary dental and/or medical care.

"At our urgent care clinic, we see thousands of patients who do not see a dentist or physician regularly," explained Dr. Rasubala. "About 70 percent of patients in pain who go to a dental emergency clinic have not attended any preventive or maintenance dental care in the previous two years, compared to about 11 percent of all patients in pain who go to a dentist in private practice."

This high frequency of dental emergency visits, which usually affects low income or underserved populations, often without insurance or with limited access to dental care, dictate that diagnosis and management of dental diseases associated with acute dental pain should be an important component of a competency-based curriculum in



Dr. Linda Rasubala

dental education. As part of this grant, Dr. Rasubala will develop this curriculum, which will serve as the starting point for teaching Inter-professional Primary Care.

The primary care education she develops will emphasize vulnerable populations and will help integrate oral health in the larger health care system. The educational programs and training materials produced will assist in establishing sustainable continuum model that integrates oral health and primary medical care.

The project's long-term goal is to develop a role model, expert and leader in oral health Inter- Professional Primary Care focusing on disadvantaged and vulnerable populations. This will lead to a continuum of care model that will improve access to primary care for dental urgent care patients. All of Dr. Rasubala's efforts will encompass dentistry and medicine.

"Dr. Rasubala has years of experience observing the complexities of access to care in dental emergency patients that highlight the relationship between the medical risks and social costs for patients lacking quality inter professional care," said Dr. Eli Eliav, director, Eastman Institute for Oral Health. "Her leadership will prove to make a significant difference in this area."

## Master's Degrees Now Offered Through EIOH

**T**he New York State Education Department has approved two new Master of Science degrees offered by the Eastman Institute for Oral Health. The Master of Science in Dental Sciences: Clinical and Translational Sciences and Master of Science in Dental Sciences: Infectious Diseases, train dental clinicians to think critically, enabling them to readily apply research skills and knowledge to improve health outcomes for patients and to pursue research activities, publications, and academic careers.

With the master's degrees now a part of Eastman Institute, "it has allowed us to tailor the program to satisfy the needs of our diverse student population," said Dr. Jack Caton, EIOH associate director for Education, "and it also provides an opportunity for many faculty to contribute to the program."

The master's degree programs were developed to meet the needs of different populations including dentists practicing in the community, residents and postdoctoral students enrolled in advanced dental education or preceptorships programs, and junior faculty at Eastman who wish to enhance their research skills and begin to publish.

Students benefit from training in the basic skills used by clinical researchers, as well as a broad array of relevant core and elective courses that will provide basic concepts and theories consistent with each candidate's goals and objectives. Each candidate works with an advisor and the program director to develop coursework uniquely tailored to individual interests and goals. Master's degree candidates complete all requirements, including the written thesis and final verbal examination, within 24 – 36 months.

Nineteen candidates are enrolled in the Master of Science programs. ■



## “Bubbles” Boost Search for Treatment to Aid Head and Neck Cancer Patients

A scientific team at the University of Rochester is using innovative technology to discover preventative treatments for salivary gland radiation damage typical for head and neck cancer patients—and recently received a \$3.8 million National Institutes of Health grant to support their investigation.

Cancer patients can lose salivary gland function during treatment for head and neck tumors. The irreversible damage, which prevents patients from producing saliva, often results in permanent dry mouth and makes it difficult to eat, speak, and swallow. The team will develop salivary gland tissues using a unique chip technology called “microbubbles,” which are tiny spherical wells or bubbles that can hold cells.

The use of the microbubble platform is based on several years of salivary gland research, led by Catherine E. Ovitt, PhD, associate professor of Biomedical Genetics, a member of Eastman Institute for Oral Health’s Center for Oral Biology, and an expert in the repair and regeneration of salivary glands, and Danielle Benoit, PhD, associate

professor of Biomedical Engineering and an expert in drug delivery systems and hydrogel platforms for tissue engineering approaches. Together with Lisa A. DeLouise, PhD, associate professor of Dermatology and Biomedical Engineering, who developed and received several patents for the microbubble concept, the scientists are working as co-principal investigators on the NIH project.

Their goal is to find drugs that could be given to patients prior to radiation treatment that would prevent damage to the glands.

“Dr. Ovitt and I have shown through years of investigation that being able to develop functional salivary gland tissue for testing is the key to solving this problem,” Benoit said. “So, it’s microbubbles to the rescue.”

Expanding cells and tissue outside of the body is elusive. In this case the process involves taking salivary gland cells that have been removed from humans undergoing surgery, expanding the cells, and studying their reaction to various drugs.

A major problem, however, starts to occur as soon as the tissue is removed from the body and isolated: Cells immediately begin to lose their natural function. In the body, cells send signals and secrete proteins that are essential for their survival. In a culture plate in a laboratory,

however, these signals and proteins are diluted and dispersed, making the cells no longer viable.

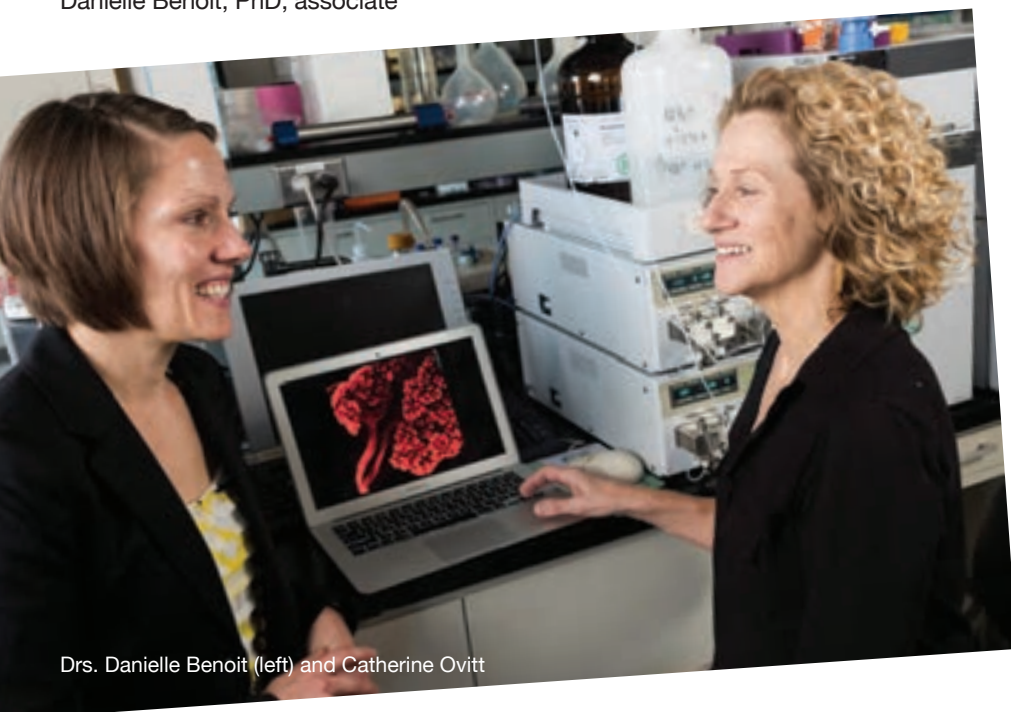
DeLouise’s technology at first glance looks similar to a cell culture petri dish, a round piece of silicone about the size of a large cookie. But within the dish are an arrangement of thousands of tiny round “micro-wells,” each one comprising a minuscule compartment for cell growth and tissue formation. The unique shape of each microbubble creates a niche that concentrates the cells, allowing them to proliferate and form salivary gland units.

The microbubbles come in different sizes, and the beauty of the technology is that scientists can grow cells in thousands of bubbles at one time. DeLouise can make dishes the size of a dime that include more than 5,000 microbubbles. In addition, Benoit’s lab has produced hydrogel materials that can be placed inside each microbubble that further allow the cell to maintain its structure and function.

If the team can successfully grow human salivary gland cells in the microbubbles, they say, they will also be able to rapidly test thousands of existing Food and Drug Administration-approved drugs on the salivary tissue using the microbubble technology.

“Only one treatment is currently available for radioprotection but it comes with many side effects, so most patients discontinue it,” Ovitt said. “There is a great need for additional ways to either cure or prevent this debilitating condition.”

The team is collaborating with Shawn D. Newlands, MD, PhD, MBA, chair of the Department of Otolaryngology and member of the Wilmot Cancer Institute’s head and neck oncology team, to collect salivary tissue from consenting patients undergoing salivary gland surgery. Salivary gland cells are isolated from these tissues for seeding into microbubbles for the investigation. Additionally, Paul Dunman, PhD, associate professor of Microbiology and Immunology, will provide high-throughput drug-screening expertise during the second phase of the project, which is contingent upon successful development of the human gland chips. ■



Drs. Danielle Benoit (left) and Catherine Ovitt





*The couple, Founding Members of the Wilson Society, at the dedication of the Dr. Dennis A. Clements III and Dr. Martha Ann Keels EIOH Pediatric Dentistry Clinic.*

## *A Marriage of Medicine and Dentistry*

The care of children is a shared passion for Dr. Dennis A. Clements III '72M (MD) and his wife, Dr. Martha Ann Keels. So when Dr. Clements, a pediatrician and global health educator, and Dr. Keels, a pediatric dentist who also works with special needs children, wanted to support initiatives at UR Medicine, they decided the best strategy was a blended gift.

Their outright gift will allow renovations and technology updates to the pediatric dentistry clinic at Eastman Institute for Oral Health. Their bequest will one day endow a named fund

that will forever enable medical students to participate in global health initiatives in countries with health disparities. While a UR medical student, Dr. Clements was given a scholarship to participate in public health programs abroad, a transformational experience now ensured for future generations of students. "Rochester invested in me," he said. "I'm simply returning a dividend."

"It seemed like a great fit, marrying both dentistry and medicine," said Dr. Keels. "Rochester is one of the few places that recognizes them as being equally important for a child's total health."



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UNIVERSITY of ROCHESTER





Dr. Douglas Dompkowski and his wife Sharon

# Generous Gift from Perio Alum

**Thanks to a generous gift,  
an Eastman Institute for Oral  
Health periodontal alumnus  
will provide many residents  
an opportunity he wishes he  
had in the early 1990's.**



Dr. Douglas Dompkowski, who finished the EIOH Periodontal Residency program in 1995, has gifted \$500,000 to help fund EIOH periodontal residents' education through scholarship and fellowship support.

"I want to help residents so they don't have to worry about finances during their residency," said Dr. Dompkowski, a Buffalo, NY native. "Eastman afforded me the opportunity to have a great dental career and I benefitted from that, so it's a way of giving back to dentistry."

Dr. Dompkowski knew he wanted to be a dentist since the second grade. Today, he has two private practice offices located in Bethesda and Rockville, Maryland. He has been named top periodontist in the area many times, including the *Consumers' Research Council of America* from 2003-2016, the *Washington Consumers' CheckBook* in 2016 and 2017, and the *Washingtonian* in 2003 and 2006.

At first, Dr. Dompkowski thought he would enjoy a career as an oral and maxillofacial surgeon because he loved the surgical aspect of dentistry. After further evaluation, he felt periodontics was a better match for his interests.

"Eastman has such a great reputation for its periodontal program, but due to the strong emphasis on academics, I didn't think it would be the best place for me, because I knew I strictly wanted private practice," he explained. "So [Department Chair] Dr. Caton allowed me to customize my education and develop more of a clinical aspect to my training."

The training in basic science he received at EIOH proved to be very valuable to Dr. Dompkowski. "Initially, I didn't realize how important the research component would be," he said. "It's helped me better understand the rationale behind various procedures. The clinical and research training at Eastman was outstanding."

"During his residency training, Doug clearly stood out because he enthusiastically worked a lot of extra hours to maximize his clinical training," said EIOH Periodontics Chair and Program Director Dr. Jack Caton. "Consequently, Doug graduated as an excellent and knowledgeable clinician. In addition to his support of alumni functions, Doug has provided generous support of the Caton Fellowship, which provides financial aid to senior residents

and junior faculty to encourage those pursuing an academic career in periodontics. I am so excited and very grateful for his support and this \$500,000 endowment. For generations to come, residents will benefit from Doug's generosity. His gift will allow the program to continue to attract the very best residents, regardless of their financial situation."

"We were able to address Dr. Dompkowski's philanthropic goals for Eastman, and his personal plans for his eventual retirement, by structuring a life-income gift that gives him charitable tax deductions year after year and a stream of income from the University in the future," explained Christopher Raimy, executive director of Gift Planning.

Aside from a successful career in clinical periodontology and implant dentistry, Eastman gave him something else.

"The relationships that I developed at Eastman more than 22 years ago have turned into lifelong friendships," said Dr. Dompkowski. "No matter where we live in the country, we've maintained those friendships and enjoy reconnecting at professional meetings."

Dr. Dompkowski is an active member of the American Dental Association, the American Academy of Periodontology, the Southern Maryland Dental Association, and the Academy of Osseointegration. He also teaches at the University of Maryland School of Dentistry. In addition, Dr. Dompkowski lectures extensively nationally and internationally on many aspects of periodontal and implant treatment.

"It's been a pleasure getting to know Dr. Dompkowski and to see his philanthropic goals at EIOH become a reality," said Bryan Winters, director of EIOH Advancement and Alumni Relations. "His gift will have a truly meaningful impact. I believe that his gift is the catalyst we've needed as we begin our Centennial capital improvements phase. Hopefully his gift will inspire others to make a gift that is important to them." ■



Dr. Douglas Dompkowski and Dr. Eli Eliav





# Andrea Pedersen to Retire

Patients with special needs enjoy Andrea's jokes and singing.

**“She is a remarkable lady that has always been a leader.”**

That’s how Maureen Steinbacher describes Andrea Pedersen, RDH, who, after 35 of years at Eastman Institute for Oral Health, is retiring from what she describes as a fulfilling and diverse career.

“I’ve known Andrea for over 30 years and many things impress me about her,” said Maureen, a dental assistant. “What impresses me the most, though, is Andrea’s passion for her patients.”

**“I wish her much happiness! It's time to relax and enjoy her grandchildren and spend more time with that wonderful husband of hers, Donald.”**

© Maureen Steinbacher

Andrea started her career in the early 1980’s as a clinical dental hygienist in pediatrics before serving as the Dental Team coordinator for the Mary M. Gooley Hemophilia Center, coordinating dental care needs for patients with bleeding disorders.

Then she began work as a research hygienist, working closely with Dr. Domenick Zero (Gen Den ’76, MS ’80) on the effect of fluoride in the oral cavity, where she managed the clinical needs of 60 people, recruited subjects, and organized the lab work for four years.

“Domenick was an amazing mentor and I thrived and loved every minute of this really intense study,” Andrea recalled. One of the most exciting and challenging portions of her career was when she made a presentation to the IADR/AADR about that study. “The whole department helped me prepare and to be comfortable lecturing.”

In 1990, Andrea transferred back to Pediatric Dentistry and

accepted a position at Monroe Community Hospital, where adult patients with developmental disabilities were treated at the onsite dental clinic, managed and staffed by Eastman Dental.

Dr. Jorge Davila was the faculty there, and had pioneered many techniques for behavior guidance and desensitization that proved very successful.

“He was a ‘dental whisperer,’” said Andrea about the late Dr. Davila. “He trained two hygienists to use aroma therapy, touch therapy, music, quiet, low light operatories. One of the main things I learned was the importance of continuity of care. It is vital to become friends with the patients and gain their confidence.”

Andrea added that time spent on pre-treating with gentleness and quiet makes for a more successful visit. Treatment is possible using these approaches, and scheduling a little longer treatment time.

“Don’t be afraid of these special people,” she added. “Invite



**"So many assistants, residents and faculty have become lifelong friends, an unsung benefit my husband and I have enjoyed."**

© Andrea Pedersen, RDH

Former co-workers  
Lynda Pasco and  
Andrea Pedersen.



and encourage the patient's staff members to join you so the patient is trusting and comfortable. These are some of the examples and methods I have tried to teach all the residents that chose to rotate and work with our team."

"There is no better advocate for patients with developmental disabilities than Andrea Pedersen," added Maureen. "The time spent with her patients can be singing to them while cleaning their teeth, dancing as they enter and leave the dental chair--whatever it takes to make their visit as pleasant as possible."

Dental hygienist students from Monroe Community College rotated through the clinic at Monroe Community Hospital. "The students raved about Andrea," said David Lawrence, program director. "She made them feel comfortable and was an excellent teacher and role model. Andrea gave the students a very positive experience that we all try to emulate."

"I personally loved the challenge of treating children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities," said Andrea, who has presented about this to many caregivers throughout the years. "As a team, we were so successful and had a

wonderful reputation. Patients would come on an emergency basis from over three hours away. After we were able to help them, they would schedule for routine care and became long term patients. Family and caregivers were thrilled that someone was able to finally take care of their consumer's dental needs."

"Andrea measures up to the highest standard of professional excellence," said Holly Barone, EIOH chief administrative officer. "Her healing touch and caring ways has had a remarkable impact on thousands of individuals with developmental disabilities. Her unwavering dedication to her patients has been an inspiration for us all! May all her years ahead be filled with the rich rewards of happiness and fulfillment she so greatly deserves and has so fully earned."

Throughout her career, Andrea has served in leadership roles and on many committees for the NYS Dental Hygienist Association, the 7th District Dental Society, and the NYS Task Force for Special Needs Dentistry. She also was part time faculty at MCC Department of Dental Studies.

Not surprising, Andrea won't stop working after she retires from EIOH, but does have some immediate plans.



"I started my career after school working part time at a local dental office," she shared. "Some 56 years later, I still enjoy teaching my patients how to keep their smiles healthy."

Traveling is high on the list, starting with an Atlantic Crossing for her retirement celebration. Trips to Turkey and Brazil are also in the near future, as is visiting grandkids in Maryland.

"I hope also to volunteer, but will take a little time to decide," she added. "Maybe I'll take on a part-time position at a flower shop, a long time love," she said. "And clean my basement." ■

Andrea uses low lighting as one way to reduce patients' anxiety.



# NATIONAL NETWORK'S SUCCESSES ARE MANY

An extension of a seven-year grant that started in 2005, the National Dental Practice-Based Research Network's success can be measured in a variety of ways.



Dr. Cyril Meyerowitz (lower right, counter clockwise) and his PBRN team: Dr. Dorota Kopycka-Kedzierawski, Pat Ragusa, Kathy Bohn, Vi Luong, Christine O'Brien, and Rita Cacciato

Funded in 2012, the Network today is comprised of 6,700 dentists and hygienists in every state and Puerto Rico. It was designed to provide a clinical research infrastructure to address questions of everyday relevance to dental practitioners and their patients. To get a sense of the number of patients who participate in these studies, the first six studies, which started in 2012, had over 12,000 patient participants with a broad geographic representation.

Entering its third phase, the Network, comprised of six regions, will build on the knowledge gained from the previous two phases. Thirty nine studies were developed and completed. These studies, conducted in participating dental offices with consenting patients, help to expand the profession's evidence base and further refine care.

From those studies, 120 peer-reviewed scientific journal articles were published in 39 different journals, representing a broad range of scientific areas in oral and general health. Members gave 186 peer-reviewed scientific presentations and nearly 1,000 non-peer-reviewed presentations or publications occurred.

"A major reason for the Network's success has been its commitment to practitioner engagement at every step of the research process," said Dr. Cyril Meyerowitz, director, of the Network's Northeast Region.

The results of studies, and other network studies, as well as a list of studies that are recruiting practitioners and patients, are available on the network's website, [NationalDentalPBRN.org](http://NationalDentalPBRN.org). The Network will further explore the use of electronic data collection, and increase the number of public-private partnerships while maintaining a geographically diverse network capable of reaching all interested participants. ■



# LEADING BY EXAMPLE AND INSPIRING SMILES

"Giving back to our community means the world to me. I get an enormous sense of fulfillment every time I see my young patients and their families smiling. That feeling fuels me and inspires me to want to do more. I'm proud of my membership in the George Eastman Circle, which allows me to provide support in a way that affects the greatest change."

— Sean McLaren DDS, chair and program director  
of Pediatric Dentistry, Eastman Institute for Oral Health

Member, George Eastman Circle  
Supports: Eastman Institute for Oral Health



Members of the George Eastman Circle, the University of Rochester's Leadership annual giving society, commit at least \$1,500 to areas they care about most, for a minimum of five years. To learn more about joining, visit [www.GeorgeEastmanCircle.com](http://www.GeorgeEastmanCircle.com) or call (585) 276-5581.



To learn more about the work the Eastman Institute for Oral Health does in the Rochester Community, visit [urmc.rochester.edu/dentistry](http://urmc.rochester.edu/dentistry)



(l to r) Dr. Bill Calnon, Dr. Ceil Feldman, Dr. Ron Billings, Dr. Eli Eliav, Dr. Cyril Meyerowitz

## William J. Gies Award for Achievement

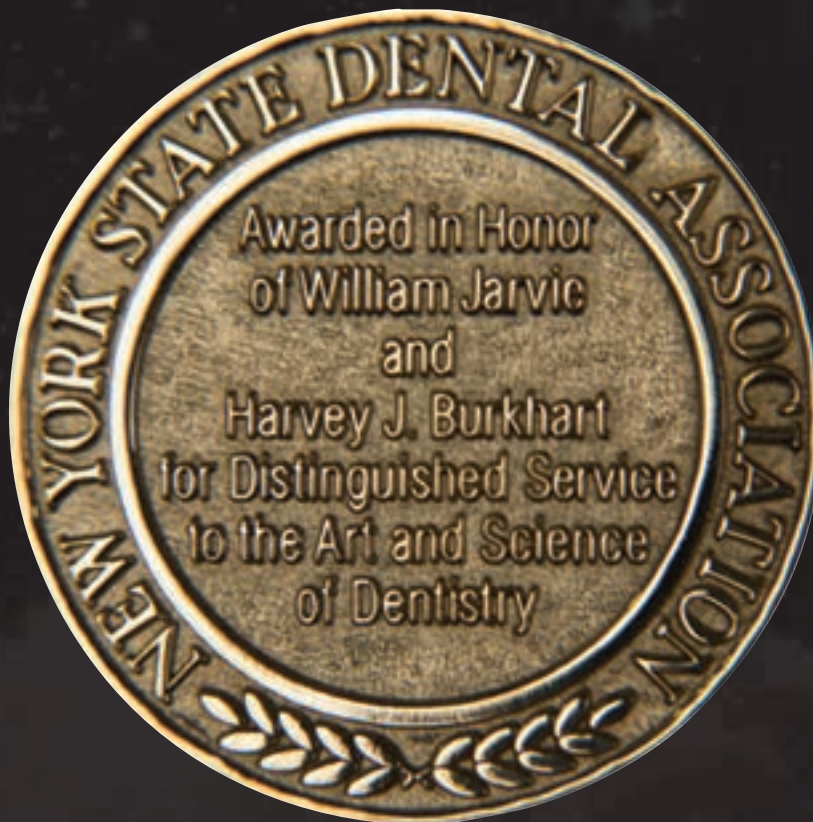
The ADEAGies Awards for Vision, Innovation and Achievement in Academic Dentistry and Oral Health are given by the ADEAGies Foundation and named after dental education pioneer William J. Gies, PhD, who published a landmark report that established the importance of dentistry as an essential component of higher education in the health professions.

As part of the American Dental Education Association, the awards are considered the profession's foremost recognition for individuals and organizations that exemplify the highest standards in oral health and dental education, research and leadership.



# EIOH Wins Two






The highest honor bestowed by the New York State Dental Association, this award recognizes those who have demonstrated advancement in promoting continuing dental education, dental research, philanthropic endeavors in the dentistry field or who have made original contributions to the science and application of dentistry.

The Jarvie-Burkhardt Award, established in 1905, is named after former NYSDA leaders and dental pioneers, Drs. William Jarvie and Harvey Burkhardt.

“It is an honor to receive both of these awards, especially in our centennial year,” said Eli Eliav, DMD, PhD, director, Eastman Institute for Oral Health. “We look forward to building on the foundation of our past accomplishments to continue leading the way with innovations in education, research and clinical care.” ■

## Jarvie-Burkhardt Award

# Major Awards



# From Patient to Dentist: The Parallel Lives of Two Eastman Alumni

**W**hile attending University of Maryland School of Dentistry in the early 1970's, Robert Bray, DDS (Ortho '75, MS '76), inquired about residency programs with his dean. To the dean, it was a no-brainer.

"Dr. Salley (PhD '54) graduated from the University of Rochester and he said that Eastman was the only place to do an Ortho residency," said Dr. Bray.

He followed the advice of Dean John J. Salley, joining the Eastman Institute for Oral Health in 1973. His interest in orthodontics stemmed from his own treatment as a 6th grader in Philadelphia. He credits his success at Eastman to the tremendous impact of the late Drs. J. Daniel Subtelny and Bob Baker. A year after graduating, he completed a Master's of Science degree at the School of Medicine and Dentistry with a major course in genetics to improve his understanding of family care.

"I knew that a background in genetics research would be helpful in the office of any orthodontist because you are

often providing care to families and their children," added Bray.

In fact, family bonds are not only instrumental to Dr. Bray's patient career – they have strengthened his relationship with his colleagues. He sees patients at his seven offices of Brayces Orthodontics of Southern New Jersey with his partner, Robert Tarby, DMD (Ortho '12, MS '12). Yet, their relationship goes well beyond five years as co-orthodontists in the practice.

"It's the closest thing to a father-son relationship without actually being one," said Dr. Tarby.

Dr. Tarby's first experience at Brayces was in 1996 as an 11-year-old patient. His successful experience with braces and early fascination with orthodontics led to his first job. He knew that Dr. Bray often hired summer helpers.

"I can't honestly say I wanted to be a dentist or orthodontist at 14, but it was the experience that ultimately led me into the dental field," said Dr. Tarby. "I was impressed by the relationship they had with



their patients, and the art and science of orthodontics.”

His roles at the office changed as started to learn about the medical knowledge and social skills inherent in dentistry. Although he started with administrative work, Dr. Tarby transitioned to performing clinical duties and educating patients. He credits his experience at

Brayces as the driving force to his decision to study biology in college and pursue dental school.

Despite attending Muhlenberg College in Allentown, Pennsylvania and Harvard School of Dental Medicine in Cambridge, Massachusetts, Dr. Tarby always found himself working in those familiar Southern New Jersey offices during school breaks.

“I performed many of the same duties, but had a much better understanding of what and why we were doing certain things,” said Dr. Tarby.

When the time came to apply to residency programs, he looked no further than his own mentor, Dr. Bray, for guidance.

“He was very successful and at the top of his class in Harvard. I advocated for Eastman as the finest, most developed orthodontic program,” said Dr. Bray “As an inquisitive and bright individual, I knew he would be a great fit.”

Dr. Tarby followed his advice and was accepted into the program. The two would occasionally discuss Dr. Subtelny’s famous Hot Seat technique, a series of highly stressful classes where residents would answer clinical, problem-solving and patient treatment questions from him for hours.

After completing the orthodontics residency and a Master’s of Science with a research project in cleft lip



Dr. Subtelny and Dr. Bray

**It's the closest thing  
to a father-son  
relationship without  
actually being one.**

~ Dr. Tarby

and palate in the same year, Dr. Tarby knew exactly where he wanted to start his dental career.

The tradition of summer employment continued for Dr. Tarby, when he joined Brayces as a full-time orthodontist in July, 2012. He was especially excited to reconnect with the community he has called home for several years.

“The entire staff and myself were extremely lucky and blessed to have Dr. Tarby join the team,” said Dr. Bray. “Many of the workers watched him grow up from a patient to a successful orthodontist.” ■

# PASSING THE GPR BATON



Dr. James Burk

Congratulations to Dr. James Burk for his more than 25 years of service as a faculty member with EIOH. Many residents and patients have benefitted from his expertise and mentorship. We wish him all the best as he begins the next chapter in his career.

Before there were official GPR/AEGD residency programs, Dr. Burk completed an internship at Eastman in 1973. He was a faculty member with General Dentistry for 25 years before joining the team at the downtown location in 2011. In 2013, after transitioning his private practice, Dr. Burk accepted the position of interim director of the GPR program, while also serving as an attending for Urgent Care.

Dr. Burk shared that the most important experience during his time at Eastman was his interaction with the residents and patients he served. “I had the opportunity to be involved with many great clinicians and educators, which taught me that you never stop learning!” he said. “I was fortunate to be assisted by so many excellent dental assistants, office managers, administrative people, and will always be grateful for their help and kind words, which I will take with me to my new position at the University of Nevada in Las Vegas.”

Dr. Maricelle Abayon, who has served as the assistant GPR program director for the last three years, has accepted the position of GPR interim director, effective January 1. ■



Dr. Maricelle Abayon

“I was fortunate to be assisted by so many excellent dental assistants, office managers, administrative people, and will always be grateful for their help and kind words, which I will take with me to my new position at the University of Nevada in Las Vegas.”

~ Dr. James Burk



For the first time ever, Eastman's SMILEmobile stopped at a college campus to provide treatment to students who are otherwise unable to access care.

EIOH partnered with Excellus BlueCross BlueShield and Rochester Institute of Technology to provide this service for all students, but those who live outside the area or have physical disabilities found it especially helpful.

The timing was perfect for Aishwanya Uniyal, a graduate student from India studying Industrial Design. "I had such a horrible toothache, I couldn't sleep all night," he said. "I had read that the SMILEmobile was going to be here, so I stopped by. Most international students do not have cars, and are on a budget, so this service is excellent."

"Normally when students come in who are experiencing dental pain, we refer them to local dentists, but they're not always able to get there," said Megan Jaros, manager of Case Management, RIT Wellness. "We're thrilled to welcome the SMILEmobile to provide oral health care where students can take advantage of the convenience for routine dental visits or emergency concerns to relieve any dental pain, which likely interferes with their studies."

Unlike Eastman Institute's other signature SMILEmobiles, this unit has been traveling to area nursing homes, refugee centers, and group homes to provide much needed care to patients who have various access challenges.

"I'm not good at keeping up with my dental hygiene, and my dentist is 1200 miles away," shared RIT senior Catherine Meininger, of Oklahoma. "The convenience and ability to get my teeth cleaned right on campus is really great." ■

## SOMETHING TO SMILE ABOUT

"We're thrilled to welcome the SMILEmobile to provide oral health care where students can take advantage of the convenience for routine dental visits or emergency concerns to relieve any dental pain, which likely interferes with their studies."

~ Megan Jaros, Case Management  
Manager, RIT Wellness



Position yourselves to influence outcomes.

Always try to make a difference – for yourselves and the public at large.

~ Dr. Calnon

# GRADUATION

Dr. William Calnon, an Eastman GPR alumnus and longstanding leader in the profession delivered a non-traditional keynote address for the graduating residents this year.

He asked the audience to imagine that George Eastman, who founded Eastman Dental 100 years ago, had observed the evolution of the dispensary, and was available for conversation.

George Eastman, Dr. Calnon said, was curious why dental disease was still so prevalent, despite major advancements in technology and knowledge.

As president of the Eastman Dental Foundation Board and American Dental Association Foundation, and past president of the American Dental Association, NYS Dental Association, and the Monroe County and Seventh District Dental Societies, Dr. Calnon challenged the graduates to continue addressing that issue.

“You must use the leadership skills you have acquired and sharpened at Eastman Institute to address the many reasons why a virtually preventable process is still as prevalent as it is,” he said. “These issues include dental literacy, ability to access care, understanding of the need for care, utilization of available care, and ability to navigate health care systems.”

And, economic and cultural issues only makes the problem worse, he added, and encouraged the graduates to get –and stay involved.

“We as professionals need to have a say in how these matters are handled,” he said. “Position yourselves to influence outcomes. Always try to make a difference – for yourselves and the public at large.”

Dr. Calnon shared Mr. Eastman’s advice for the graduating class: “You are a product of many years of history. Their future has been shaped by leaders in dentistry, and by those who invested in the mission of the original dispensary, and who gave back to the institution that had contributed to their personal and professional success.

“You have become part of a family with a rich heritage and a very bright future,” he continued. “Membership in the family comes with certain responsibilities. Stay current and engaged – the family is stronger with you and you are stronger because of the family. Look for ways to mentor and invest in those around you. The world will be a better place when you do.”



## AWARDS

Before the trainees received their certificates, many awards were given to deserving faculty, staff and residents.

**The Director's Award was presented to Dr. Eugene Surasky**, a part-time faculty member in General Dentistry for 30 years. The award recognizes his excellence in clinical education, and for outstanding achievements in service and education.

"When you combine a wonderful sense of humor, compassion, kindness, thoughtfulness, the willingness to help others and give their personal time, with excellent dental skills and diagnostic ability, you get Dr. Eugene Surasky," Dr. Eliav said.

(Editor's note: We learned at press time that Dr. Surasky passed away Nov. 18. He will be missed dearly.)

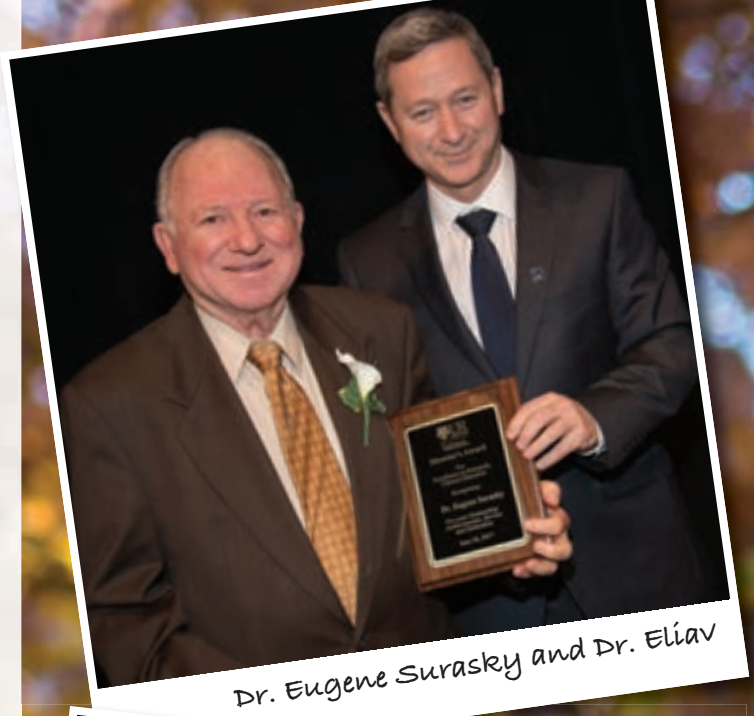
**Dr. Leonard Fishman, who has been helping residents for some 55 years, was awarded the Bejan Iranpour Award**, for making a huge impact supervising clinical treatment as well as numerous research projects which have impacted the discipline of orthodontics.

"Through the years, Len mentored generations of orthodontists, sometimes the parent and years later their daughter or son," Dr. Eliav added. "I am looking forward to see him teaching one of his resident's grandchild."

Each year, the Dentistry faculty and residents are given the opportunity to nominate part-time faculty who give a great amount of personal time and understanding to those involved in our educational programs. **This year's recipient is Dr. Vladimir Frias.**

"If we knew that the talented Dr. Frias lived in the region, we would have approached him years ago," said Dr. Eliav. "But it was one of our lucky days when he approached us with a desire to teach part time."

**The Shaffer-Devries Award for Excellence in Administrative Operations or Clinical Service was awarded to Tequila Wright**, who started her career at Eastman more than 13 years ago as a dental assistant, was promoted to Lead Dental Assistant and has been the Practice Manager for School 17 and the SMILEmobiles for the last 4 years.



Dr. Eugene Surasky and Dr. Eliav



Dr. Leonard Fishman and Dr. Eliav



Clare Shaffer, Tequila Wright, Dr. Eliav, Jane Devries

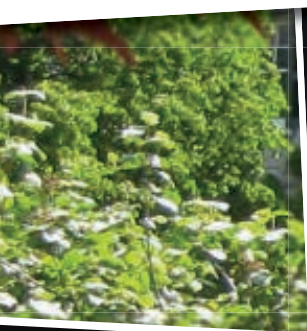




Dr. Linda Wang, Dr. Eliav, Dr. Grace Xuelian Huang



Dr. Sari Manap Alzoubi and Dr. Calnon



Dr. Maria Gabriela Carranza and Dr. Malmström



Dr. Abner O Delos Santos, Dr. Sari Manap Alzoubi, Marty Handelman, Dr. Malmström



Dr. Alexandra Tsigarida and Dr. Jack Caton

## Basil G. Bibby Fellowship Award

Basil Bibby who served as the second director of the Eastman dispensary between 1947 and 1967 strove to lead and help early investigators into productive and meaningful careers.

He encouraged young people to think and to participate in research with the realization that research caused one to focus attention and foster thinking. **Dr. Grace Xuelian Huang and Dr. Linda Wang were chosen for this award.**

## New York State Dental Foundation Dean's Award

**Dr. Sari Manap Alzoubi was given this award** for demonstrating outstanding academic achievement and their commitment to enhancing and improving the oral health of underserved populations.

## Stanley L. Handelman Fellowship Award

This award is not given out each year, but only when an exemplary resident or student, such as this year's awardee **Dr. Maria Gabriela Carranza**, has been identified as truly embracing the spirit of the Handelman fund.

**Another Handelman Award recognized Drs. Sari Manap Alzoubi and Abner O Delos Santos** for their performance during the program of going beyond the expectations and demonstrating excellent skills in leadership, ethics, initiative, and communications, as well as showing an interest in enhancing other residents' experience at EIOH.

## Jack G. Caton Graduate Fellowship Award

**This award, given to Dr. Alexandra Tsigarida**, is designed to encourage and support dentists who are pursuing an academic career in periodontics. The Caton Fellowship was awarded to Dr. Alexandra Tsigarida, an assistant professor in the Department of Periodontics, in recognition of her commitment to academic periodontology.

"I've always felt very welcome and supported by all the faculty and the institution," said Dr. Tsigarida, EIOH Periodontics assistant professor. "I will



continue to strive for excellence for the residents, our department, and the institution.”

### Award for Scholarly Excellence

**Drs. Fawad Javed and Sergio Varela Kellesarian** received this award for their contributions to dental research in peer-reviewed publications during their two and a half years of training. Dr. Javed published 68 studies in medical and dental journals, and Dr. Varela Kellesarian published 41 studies. Each received national and international media attention for some of their work. This award was given for the first time to graduating AEGD residents.

### American Association for Dental Research – Rochester Section

Each spring, a special event highlights research projects completed throughout the year. Out of 80 poster presentations, a team of judges selected seven to receive scientific merit awards.

#### Basil G. Bibby Award

Outstanding scientific merit among presentations by non-degree candidates.

**Dr. Shannon Fitzpatrick**, Pediatric Dentistry

**Dr. Edith Gonzalez Jaimes**, AEGD

**Dr. Samuel Obamiyi**, TMJD and Orofacial Pain.

#### Michael G. Buonocore Award

Outstanding scientific merit among oral and poster presentations by degree candidates.

**Dr. Cuc (Daisy) Ngo**, Orthodontics

**Dr. Linda Wang**, Periodontics

#### Gerald N. Graser Award

Outstanding clinical case series and/or case reports that describe original, innovative and/or evidence based clinical treatments.

**Dr. Adriana Parra Barillas**, AEGD

#### Bowen Award

Outstanding scientific merit among poster presentations by candidates in postdoctoral programs.

**Dr. Heng Lin**, Center for Oral Biology ■



Dr. Samuel Obamiyi  
Dr. Shannon  
Fitzpatrick,  
Dr. Kopycka-  
Kedzierawski, Dr.  
Edith Gonzalez  
Jaimes



Dr. Javed and Dr. Kellesarian



Dr. Cuc Ngo, Dr. Kopycka-Kedzierawski,  
Dr. Linda Wang



Dr. Adriana Parra  
Barillas



Dr. Heng Lin

**Dr. Eli Eliav** was the only dentist on a National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine committee that studied pain management, opioid misuse and public health. Its *Pain Management and the Opioid Epidemic* report is now available.

**Dr. Peter Laliberte** (GPR '76), of Maine, has retired. He was active in many professional organizations, including Special Olympics, and trips to Honduras to provide dental treatment to a vast indigent population.

**Dr. Paul Weinstein** (Pedo '67) is retiring after 50 years in private practice in Quebec. He and his business partner sold their practice to Dr. Jaime Greenspoon (Pedo '11).

## Three Faculty Promoted



**Dr. Cynthia Wong** (Pedo '13, MS '16) has been named the assistant program director of Pediatric Dentistry.

In her new role, she will continue to partner with the program director in managing resident education, resident research and compliance with CODA and University standards. Dr. Wong is actively involved in advocating and treating patients with special needs, as well as conducting research related to Early Childhood Caries. She earned her dental degree from The University of Montreal and completed training at The Montreal Children's Hospital GPR program.



**Dr. Erin Shope** (Pedo '12, MS '15) has been named the director of Interdisciplinary Pediatric Dentistry Care. She will be responsible for strengthening division interactions and developing collaborations among other clinics within the URM network, on a statewide, national and international basis. Dr. Shope is the EIOH expert on treating infant patients with cleft lip and palate with the NAM (nasopalveolar molding device) and a member of the UR Medicine Cleft and Craniofacial Team. She graduated dental school from The University of Pittsburgh.



**Dr. John Vorrasi** was appointed associate program director for the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Department. He completed a one-year Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery internship at the University of Maryland after which he was accepted into the residency program. In 2013, he joined the OMFS program at Christiana Health Care System in Delaware. He served as director of Clinics, then as associate program director until 2014 and as program director in 2015.





**The 4th Annual KMR Memorial Fund and Golf Event** raised \$6,000 this year to financially help families with babies born with cleft lip and palate. They often travel several hours weekly in order for their infant to receive specialized treatment at Eastman and the Pediatric Cleft and Craniofacial Center.

**Dr. Torin Chenard** (Ortho '06) was featured in the media for his leadership role in collecting and delivering food and blankets for the last three years to Haitian refugees.



**Dr. Jack Caton** (Perio '73, MS '73) has received the 2017 Master Clinician Award from the American Academy of Periodontology for his demonstrated clinical excellence in the periodontal specialty and for willingly passing his wisdom and experience on to others.

"His pioneering research work in periodontal wound healing provided the clinical as well as histological basis for evaluating and understanding periodontal regenerative procedures," says AAP Secretary/Treasurer Dr. Bryan Frantz, citing Dr. Caton's contributions to the development of the first biodegradable barrier membrane and of Periostat, the first dentistry drug approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.



**Dr. Sharon Elad**, chair, Eastman Institute for Oral Health's Oral Medicine Department, was recognized recently as an Honorary Diplomate by the American Board of Oral Medicine (ABOM) during the annual American Academy of Oral Medicine Conference.

"There are amazingly qualified oral medicine specialists, such as Dr. Elad, who unfortunately aren't eligible to become a formal Diplomate because they received their specialty training in an international academic institution, not an American, Commission on Dental Accreditation certified institution," explained Dr. Douglas Peterson, ABOM president. "We're very proud and excited to recognize individuals who are internationally esteemed and have exemplary skills in education, patient care and research."



**From Patient to Professional and Patient Again** – As a child, **Jane MacBride**, administrative assistant for University Dental Faculty Practice, was a patient at the Dental Dispensary. "I remember the bird cage, large stair case and lots of windows," said Jane, a 20 year employee and current patient. "The staff was always nice to me."



**Holly Barone**, EIOH chief administrative officer, gave a presentation on Management and Operation of Dental Institutions in the USA at Yinchuan Hospital of Stomatology.

**Dr. Jack Caton** (Perio '73, MS '73) is co-chairing the 2017 World Workshop on the Classification of Periodontal and Peri-Implant Diseases. EIOH faculty/alumni Drs. Caton, Ercoli and Fan are contributors.



**Dr. Takahiro Takano's** work was highlighted in *Research Features*. An assistant professor with the Center for Oral Biology, Dr. Takano's research focuses on developing alternative treatment strategies for chronic pain and developing understanding of adenosine signalling - similarly seen when using acupuncture as a therapeutic treatment.



**Dr. P. Emile Rossouw** served as guest editor of the June issue of *Seminars in Orthodontics*. Drs. Robert Malloy (Ortho '00) Shaima Malik (TMJ '08, GenDen '11, GPR '12 Ortho '14), and Ali Bahreman (Ortho '66, MS '67)) were all contributing authors.



**Dr. Konstantinos Chochlidakis** (Prosthodontics '13), assistant professor in Prosthodontics, was awarded the Glen P. McGivney Scientific Writing Award for Systematic Review.

Dr. Chochlidakis was lead author in the article, "Digital versus conventional impressions for fixed prosthodontics: A systematic review and meta-analysis," published in the *Journal of Prosthetic Dentistry*. It was chosen by a committee who reviewed all the articles published in the journal over a one-year time period.

**Dr. Chris Roberts** (GenDen '84, Ortho '87) was installed as the AAO Trustee for the Great Lakes Association of Orthodontists and is slated to become the AAO President in 2020.

**Dr. Marni Phillips** (Ortho '14 ) was awarded the Frederick J. Halik Award from the 7th District Dental Society recognizing a new dentist who has demonstrated leadership and initiative in the profession.





## Welcome New Board Member

The Eastman Dental Foundation Board is delighted to welcome **Michele Penrose**, director for Henry Schein Inc. Global Professional Relations. Michele has led many corporate initiatives primarily focused on practice management training and education for dentists and their team members. She has created numerous strategic alliance relationships with national associations and has helped implement and execute these important programs within the Business Solutions Division.



**Dr. Adina C. Jucan**, (GenDen '11, GPR 12, MS 16), clinical director of Eastman Dental at Highland, was recognized twice for her expertise and commitment to improving the oral health of older adults. She was recently named a Fellow of Special Care Dentistry for her outstanding contributions to special patient care. She also won the Elaine and Irwin Karron Memorial Prize for Excellence in Geriatrics given by the UR Division of Geriatrics and Aging.



**Dr. Robert Bray** (Ortho '75, MS '76) was awarded the American Academy of Orthodontics Foundation's Eugene and Pauline Blair Distinguished Service Award for his exceptional contributions to furthering its mission and goals. The AAOF announced the Robert James Bray Biomedical Research Award in recognition for all of Dr. Bray's accomplishments and dedication.



**Dr. Sean McLaren** (GPR '03 Pedo '06), chair, Pediatric Dentistry, was named a Fellow in the American College of Dentists, the oldest major honorary organization for dentists. Its members have exemplified excellence through outstanding leadership and exceptional contributions to dentistry and society.

Fellowship in the American College of Dentists is a distinct honor, with only about 3.5 percent of dentists in the United States being granted Fellowship in the College. Fellowship is bestowed only if the accomplishments of the nominee are truly outstanding and epitomize excellence.



**Dr. Carlo Ercoli** (Prosthodontics '96, TMJ '97, GenDen '98, Perio '12), was nominated chair, for the 2019 Scientific Program Committee of the American College of Prosthodontists. He was also named a board member of the American Academy of Fixed Prosthodontics.



**Dr. Debbie New** (Orthodontics '94, MS '96, PhD '98) was appointed North East Society of Orthodontists and State Chair for the American Association of Orthodontics PAC.



**Dr. Mike Spoon** (Orthodontics '91) is serving as vice president of the North Atlantic Component of the Edward H Angle Society and **Dr. Ron Bellohusen** is serving as secretary.



**Drs. Eliav, Meyerowitz and Ren** travelled to Henan, China to provide support as academic partners in developing a dental school at Henan University.



**Dr. Moataz Elmahdy** (Orthodontics '17) received Student of the Year Award from the *Journal of Clinical Orthodontics*.



## Weddings



**Dr. Holly Yuen** (Ortho '17) and **Soba Jafarzade** were married on July 29, 2017

**Dr. Chris Baker** (TMJD '14 Ortho '16) and **Margo Nich** were married July 8, 2017



**Dr. Cynthia Wong** (Pedo '13, MS '16) married **Dr. Carl Haoming Qiu** July 8, 2017



**Dr. Moataz Elmahdy** (Ortho '17) and **Stephanie Chapin** were married July 7, 2017

## Babies



Dr. Adela Planerova (GenDen '14, GPR '16, MS '16)) and her husband Petr Planer welcomed daughter **Sophia** on August 15, 2017



Dr. Lisa DeLucia and her husband Mark Bruno welcomed daughter **Allison Elise** on July 12, 2017



Dr. Matt Rogers (Ortho'09) and his wife Heather welcomed baby **Katherine Charlotte** on January 21, 2017



Dr. Rose Chen (Ortho '11) welcomed **Maddison Wang** on July 20, 2016

## We'd love to stay in touch!

Please contact us to make sure we have your and fellow Eastman Alumni's current email and/or address!

Follow us on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube

**Email:** [Karen\\_Black@urmc.rochester.edu](mailto:Karen_Black@urmc.rochester.edu)



## In Sympathy



**Stanley Handelman, DDS**, passed away November 11, 2016.

Raised in Brooklyn, Dr. Handelman attended William and Jefferson College where he immersed himself in intellectual and cultural pursuits which became deeply embedded in how he lived his life. He always encouraged others to look deeper, explore contrasting perspectives, and pursue practical and impactful knowledge and action. After earning his DMD from Tufts University Dental School, Dr. Handelman came to Eastman Dental Dispensary in 1958 to work as a research associate and instructor, eventually becoming chair of General Dentistry for 24 years and remaining on faculty for 36 years. He authored more than 80 publications, maintained a private practice and was active in the profession locally, regionally and nationally.

Dr. Handelman established an alternative to the traditional hospital based general dentistry residency type of program, which has today become the more popular program across the country. Because of all his contributions to dental education, Dr. Handelman became known as the Father of Advanced Education in General Dentistry.

"Simply put, he cared deeply about people," said Dr. Domenick Zero, (GenDen '75, MS '79), director, Oral Health Research Institute and professor at the Indiana University School of Dentistry. "I have always marveled at Stan's intellect and vision, but was most impressive was his sense of humanity. Stan created a culture of inclusiveness, openness and creativity as the chair of General Dentistry that touched all of his many students, faculty and staff."

"His contributions to postdoctoral general dentistry education, General Dentistry Department and EIOH cannot be overstated," added Dr. Malmstrom. "He will always be missed as a colleague, friend, mentor and role model."



**William H. Bowen, BDS, PhD** passed away November 15, 2016.

Dr. Bowen, originally from Enniscorthy, Ireland, received his BDS from the National University of Ireland, and then moved to Rochester for his residency and master's degree from the Eastman Dental Center and the School of Medicine and Dentistry, respectively. He returned to England for his doctoral work at the University of London, in oral bacteriology and cariology.

In the ensuing years, Dr. Bowen held several Fellowships at the Royal College of Surgeons (London), before returning to the United States as the Chief of Caries Prevention and the Research Branch of the National Caries Program at the National Institute for Dental Research at NIH. In 1982, he returned to Rochester, as the Margaret and Cy Welcher Professor of Dental Research, the Chair of Dental Research (now the Center for Oral Biology, part of Eastman Institute for Oral Health) and Professor of Microbiology & Immunology in the School of Medicine and Dentistry.

Dr. Bowen was a highly accomplished scientist, mentor, and leader in his field. He consulted for numerous countries on oral health and caries prevention, in addition to his service to the FDA, the Public Health Service, the Federal Trade Commission, the European Commission, and the American Dental Services. He held every elected office in the International Association for Dental Research, the American Association for Dental Research, and he was a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the European Organization for Caries Research, and member of the National Academy of Sciences Institute of Medicine of the United States. He was also an elected member of the College of Surgeons of England and the College of Surgeons of his native Ireland.

Dr. Bowen published more than 300 articles, books, and book chapters and received five honorary doctorates from Institutions outside of the United States.



After a brave battle with lung cancer, **Stephanie Vinh, DDS (GPR '11, Pedo '13, Ortho '17)** passed away September 27, 2017. She was a beloved student/graduate of both Orthodontic and Pediatric Dentistry and had recently successfully passed her Orthodontic Board exams.



**Dr. Mark Webman (Pedo '78)** passed away suddenly on Oct. 23, 2017. He was still actively working in his private practice, teaching at Miami Children's Hospital, and enjoying travelling widely with his wife Bonnie.

**Dr. Jim Glauser (Ortho '95)** passed away on August. 25, 2017.

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