

**2020 Medical & Dental Student Research Day**

Medical and Dental Student Research Day was recently held on Monday, March 2, 2020, to celebrate and showcase 14 student researchers and to acknowledge their faculty mentors. Oral presentations were given by Kathryn Forth (mentor: Dr. Chen) and Patricia Hare (mentor: Dr. Schmidt). Poster presentations were given by: Lauren Cardarelli (mentor: Dr. Tadinada), Albert Chen (mentor: Dr. Kuhn), Madison Cohen (mentor: Dr. Lurie), Tyler Guido (mentor: Dr. Nichols), Bhavin Gupta (mentor: Dr. Pilbeam), Jay Kim (mentor: Dr. Pam Robey/NIH), Alexandra McKenna (mentor: Dr. Banach), Mikayla Moynahan (mentor: Alix Deymier), Courtney

Regan (mentor: Dr. Litt), Rebecca Salustri (mentor: Dr. Ioannidou), Robert Violette (mentor: Dr. Banach), and Matthew Wittstein (mentor: Dr. Degollado).



Bottom L-R: Jay Kim, Rebecca Salustri, Madison Cohen, Mikayla Moynahan, Matthew Wittstein, Alexandra McKenna, Robert Violette, Lauren Cardarelli, and Bhavin Gupta (Photo: Tina Encarnacion)

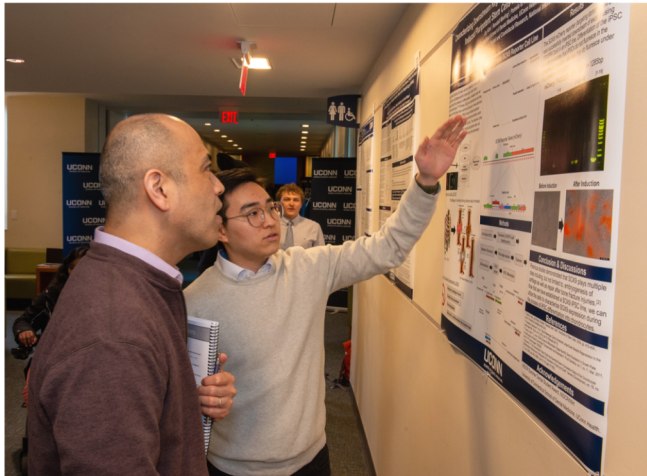


(Photo: Tina Encarnacion)

The Rotunda was filled to capacity for the arrival of the 20<sup>th</sup> U.S. Surgeon General, Jerome M. Adams, who gave the keynote address this year. Prior to delivering the keynote, he mingled with both faculty and students in the audience. His presentation was entitled, “Combating the Opioid Epidemic: An Update from the Surgeon General” and also touched on various current topics including the Coronavirus (COVID-19) and at the conclusion, fielded questions from the audience. To view the Surgeon General’s keynote:

<http://mediasite.uhc.edu/mediasite41/Play/d873a5c1dec04a71b23d65949d0881a81d>

In this Issue:



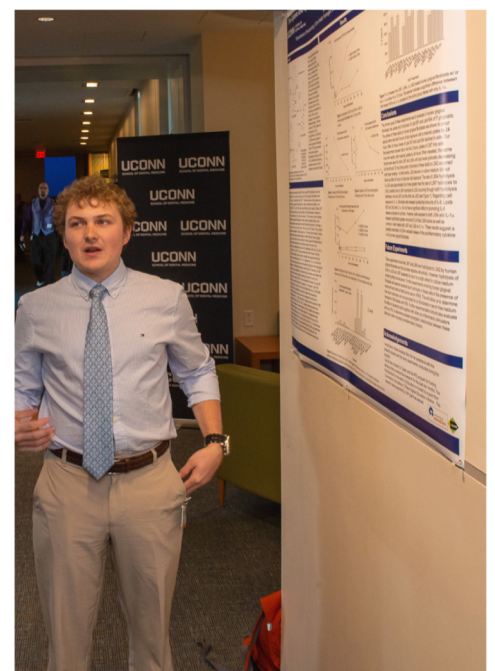
Jay Kim



Matthew Wittstein



Albert Chen



Tyler Guido



Patricia Hare

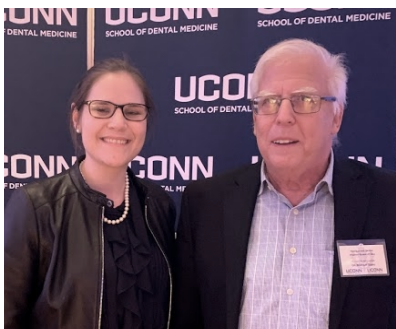


Rebecca Salustri

## Congratulations to Dental Student Research Day Award Recipients:



Jay Kim and Ms. Carol Dingeldey  
(Executive Director, CSDA)



Rebecca Salustri and Dr. Michael Basso  
(CT Holistic Health Assn)



Alexandra McKenna and Madison Cohen



Mr. Joel Monteiro (Dentsply-Sirona),  
Patricia Hare and Dr. Schmidt

Dean's Award:

Lauren Cardarelli (mentor: Dr. Tadinada)

Associate Dean's Award:

Kathryn Forth (mentor: Dr. Chen)

Colgate-Palmolive Student Research Award:

Madison Cohen (mentor: Dr. Lurie) and  
Alexandra McKenna (mentor: Dr. Banach)

Dentsply-Sirona Student Clinician Award:

Patricia Hare (mentor: Dr. Schmidt)

Connecticut Holistic Health Association Award:

Rebecca Salustri (mentor: Dr. Ioannidou)

Dental Student Research Society Award:

Tyler Guido (mentor: Dr. Nichols)

Gustave Perl Memorial Award:

Jay Kim (mentor: Dr. Pam Robey/NIH)

Omicron Kappa Upsilon-Phi Chi Chapter Award (Basic Science):

Matthew Wittstein (mentor: Dr. Degollado)

Omicron Kappa Upsilon-Phi Chi Chapter Award (Clinical Science):

Mikayla Moynahan (mentor: Dr. Deymier)

Sigma-Xi Membership Award:

Kathryn Forth (mentor: Dr. Chen) and  
Patricia Hare (mentor: Dr. Schmidt)



Dr. Lepowsky, Lauren Cardarelli and  
Dr. Tadinada

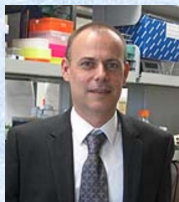


Dr. Chen, Kathryn Forth & Dr. Lalla

## Recognition

Congratulations to Dr. Ivo Kalajzic for his recent article in UConn Today:

<https://today.uconn.edu/school-stories/delivery-healthy-donor-cells-key-correcting-bone-disorder-uconn-researchers-find/>



### American Academy of Fixed Prosthodontics

Congratulations to Dr. Avinash Bidra, scientific session main podium speaker at the American Academy of Fixed Prosthodontics Meeting held in Chicago this month.



Congratulations to Dr. Eliane Dutra, who recently received a K-01 Research Career Development award. Dr. Dutra was a 2018 cohort of the Pre-K Scholar Career Development Award Program.

<https://health.uconn.edu/connecticut-convergency-institute/2020/03/03/multiple-pre-k-scholars-receive-k-awards/>



Congratulations to Dr. Ali Tamayol, highlighting his "Smart" Bandages to heal chronic wounds:

<https://today.uconn.edu/2020/02/uconn-biomedical-engineer-creates-smart-bandages-heal-chronic-wounds/#>



Silver diamine fluoride (SDF) is being used in the UConn Health Pediatric Dental Clinic which allows for a painless method of treating children's cavities. The full article is found in the February 6<sup>th</sup> edition of UConn Today:

<https://today.uconn.edu/school-stories/revolutionary-painless-method-treating-childrens-cavities-used-uconn/>

Congratulations to Dr. Po-Jung Chen (research advisor: Dr. Upadhyay) who was recently notified of his RAA award from the American Association of Orthodontists Foundation.



**Quinnipiac**  
Frank H. Netter MD  
School of Medicine



RARE DISEASE DAY 2020  
**28 FEBRUARY**



Congratulations to Grethel Millington (mentor: Dr. Hurley) who was selected to give an oral presentation at Rare Research Day 2020 at Quinnipiac University on February 28<sup>th</sup>.

**YANKEE**  
DENTAL CONGRESS

Congratulations to the following students and residents who were selected to present their research at the recent Yankee Dental Congress Meeting held on Saturday, February 1, 2020:



**Lauren Cardarelli** (2<sup>nd</sup> year dental student), mentor: Dr. Tadinada



**Dr. Kavya Shankar Muttanahally** (Oral & Maxillofacial Radiology resident), mentor: Dr. Tadinada



**Dr. Anusha Vaddi** (Oral & Maxillofacial Radiology resident), mentor: Dr. Tadinada

Advancing the **Vision 2020**



The following students/residents presented their research at the Greater New York Dental Meeting held in New York City on December 4<sup>th</sup>

GREATER  
NEW YORK  
DENTAL MEETING  
35<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING

### Dental Students:



Akosua Adzenyah  
Mentor: Dr. Tadinada



Ayesha Ejaz  
Mentor: Dr. Tadinada



Ambika Sharma  
Mentor: Dr. Tadinada

### AEGD Residents:



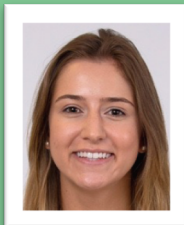
Dr. Eva Raposo Pimentel



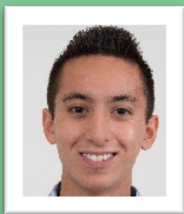
Dr. Alvaro Garcia Morales



Dr. Erika Sanchez Ramirez



Congratulations to **Kathryn Forth** (mentor: Dr. I-Ping Chen and PIE Program participant) and **Matthew Wittstein** (mentor Dr. Carlos Degollado) who were selected to present their research at the ADEA Session in March. Due to travel restrictions, the conference was cancelled.

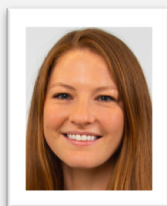


Congratulations to **Dr. David Remiszewski**, Prosthodontics Resident, received the 2<sup>nd</sup> place research award at the American Prosthodontics Society Meeting held in Chicago in February; major advisor: Dr. Bidra.

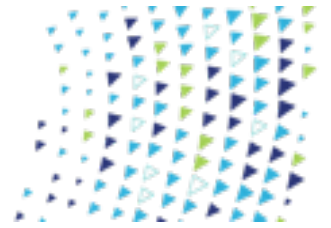
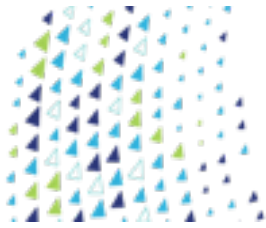


## American Academy of Fixed Prosthodontics

Congratulations to **Dr. David Remiszewski**, major advisor: Dr. Bidra), receiving 1<sup>st</sup> place for a research award at the American Academy of Fixed Prosthodontics 2020 Annual Meeting held February 20-22, in Chicago.



Congratulations to Prosthodontics Residents, **Drs. Breanne Dufault, Samuel Lee and Collin Shuen** who recently presented their research at AAFP. Their major advisor is Dr. Bidra.



The IADR General Session scheduled for March 18-21 was recently cancelled due to travel restrictions. We would like to acknowledge the speakers and presenters who were unable to participate at this event:

Students:

Lauren Cardarelli

Elena Carrington

Madison Cohen

Ayesha Ejaz

Andrea Geffin

Residents and Fellows:

Dr. Martinna Bertolini

Dr. Po-Jung Chen

Dr. Rebecca Dresner

Dr. Vaibhav Gandhi

Dr. Amirtha Hariharan

Dr. Sungeun Koo

Dr. Shivan Mehta

Faculty:

Dr. Effie Ioannidou

Dr. J. Robert Kelly

Dr. Mina Mina

Dr. Ali Tamayol

Dr. Takanori Sobue

Dr. Afroditi Pita

Dr. Ninna Shuhaibar-Pinerua

## Research Topic Updates

### Human Subject Research

Do you have trouble determining whether your study involves human subjects or not?

The Office of Extramural Research (OER) has developed a quick decision tool that should assist you with determining if your research involves human subjects, may be considered exempt from Federal regulations, or is not considered human subjects research. This tool should not be used as the sole determination of exemption.

<https://grants.nih.gov/policy/humansubjects/hs-decision.htm>

### New NIH Salary Cap FY20

Effective January 5, 2020 the NIH salary cap increased from \$192,300 to **\$197,300**.

### Continuous Submission – being discontinued

NIH plans on discontinuing the practice of granting one-year continuous submission status to reviewers with recent substantial review service, which was earned by serving 6 times in an 18-month period. To honor commitments to those that have already served under the prior policy:

- Reviewers who are currently eligible for continuous submission through Recent Substantial Service will remain eligible through the end of their term on September 30, 2020.
- Reviewers who earn eligibility for continuous submission through Recent Substantial Service during the period January 1, 2019, through June 30, 2020, will be eligible from August 1, 2020, through September 30, 2021.
- No reviewers will subsequently earn or be granted continuous submission eligibility due to Recent Substantial Service.

To read the full notice: <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-20-060.html>

### Font FAQ's

Recently an application was administratively withdrawn by NIH for not using the correct font size. This did not happen in the SDM, but it did happen at UCH. Though this seems like a minor issue, NIH is becoming very strict with their guidelines.

Adherence to font size, type density, line spacing and text color requirements is necessary to ensure readability and fairness. Although font requirements apply to all attachments, they are most important and most heavily scrutinized in attachments with page limits.

Text in your attachments must follow these minimum requirements:

- **Font size:** Must be 11 points or larger. Smaller text in figures, graphs, diagrams and charts is acceptable, as long as it is legible when the page is viewed at 100%.
  - Some PDF conversion software reduces font size. It is important to confirm that the final PDF document complies with the font requirements.
- **Type density:** Must be no more than 15 characters per linear inch (including characters and spaces).
- **Line spacing:** Must be no more than six lines per vertical inch.
- **Text color:** No restriction. Though not required, black or other high-contrast text colors are recommended since they print well and are legible to the largest audience.

We recommended the following fonts, although other fonts (both serif and non-serif) are acceptable if they meet the above requirements.

- Arial
- Georgia
- Helvetica



- Palatino Linotype

Legibility is of paramount importance. Applications that include PDF attachments that do not conform to the minimum requirements listed above may be withdrawn from consideration.

## Congratulations to the following faculty on obtaining new funding:

### **K01**

Dr. Eliane Dutra – “The role of FGFR3 in the effects of PTH in the Mandibular Condyle”

### **R37**

Dr. Kshitiz Gupta – “Investigating the Role of Emergent Oscillations of Hypoxia Inducible Factor-1 alpha Activity in Cancer Growth and Progression”

### **U01**

Dr. Mark Litt – “Individualized Assessment and Treatment Program for TMD: Coping as a Mechanism”

## Research Resources

### Lincus Software

The Office of Vice President of Research has developed a software program for UConn faculty, staff and students that allows you to easily search the research topics and publications of our faculty. This requires the use of your Net ID and password to enter the system. Please try it out since it could be invaluable for helping you to locate existing equipment and expertise here at UConn that might further your own research. It's kind of fun because you get a map of who you have published with and a list of keywords associated with your research. To access the program: <http://lincus.uconn.edu>

### Center For Open Research Resources & Equipment (COR<sup>2</sup>E)

Looking for a piece of equipment or a Core service? Check out [core.uconn.edu](http://core.uconn.edu) for a listing of Core services and shared equipment available across our University.



### Statistical Support for Dental Residents in Masters Programs

Chia-Ling Kuo, PhD

Assistant Professor

Biostatistics Center, CICATS

[kuo@uchc.edu](mailto:kuo@uchc.edu)

### Pre-submission Reviews of Grant Proposals

UConn has a contract with a research consulting firm called Hanover Research. They provide a range of services including pre-submission reviews of grant proposals and helping faculty incorporate feedback for resubmission. They work on one project at a time for the University so requests are prioritized based on strategic needs and deadlines. SDM faculty are encouraged to consider applying to utilize their services.

If interested, please email Dr. Lalla at [Lalla@uchc.edu](mailto:Lalla@uchc.edu), well in advance of your submission deadline.



Have you received a recent award, accomplishment or have some interesting news to share with the SDM Research Community? Please forward your news to Lisa Ramsdell ([ramsdell@uchc.edu](mailto:ramsdell@uchc.edu)) so it may be included in our next newsletter!

## Research Dean's Corner



### **SDM – Research Office**

**263 Farmington Avenue**

**Farmington, CT 06030-3912**

Dr. Rajesh Lalla - Associate Dean for Research

Dr. Effie Ioannidou - Director, Dental Clinical Research Center

Dr. Aditya Tadinada - Director of Student Research

#### Office Staff:

Laura Didden – Manager, SDM Research Office

Annmarie Martin, Brandon Mulcunry, Lisa Ramsdell,

Kamal Sahoobah, Robin Tiso and Caibin Zhang