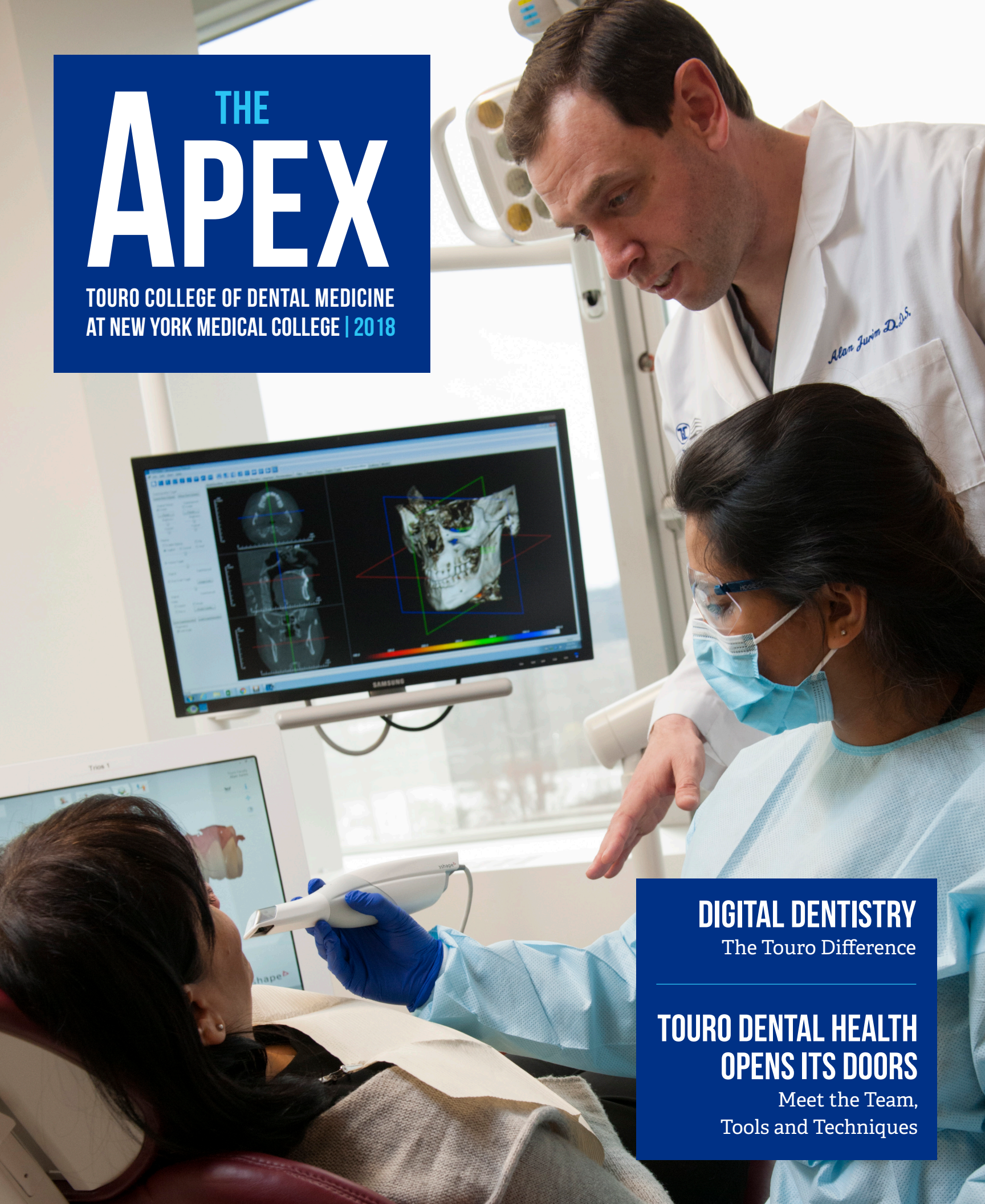


THE APEX

TOURO COLLEGE OF DENTAL MEDICINE
AT NEW YORK MEDICAL COLLEGE | 2018



DIGITAL DENTISTRY

The Touro Difference

TOURO DENTAL HEALTH OPENS ITS DOORS

Meet the Team,
Tools and Techniques

OUR MISSION

The mission of Touro College of Dental Medicine at New York Medical College is to graduate outstanding dental professionals who will utilize a complex knowledge base and sophisticated perceptual skills to deliver excellent healthcare service to their diverse communities with integrity, compassion and empathy. The school is dedicated to conducting important educational and clinical research, while providing excellent dental health services to the public.



Touro College of Dental Medicine
AT NEW YORK MEDICAL COLLEGE

Where Knowledge and Values Meet



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THE APEX

Inaugural Issue 2018

Touro College of Dental Medicine
at New York Medical College

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WELCOME TO THE DENTAL EDUCATION OF THE FUTURE

Since its founding a century ago along university lines, dental education in this country has been steeped in tradition and remained remarkably unchanged—that is, until now. The oral healthcare profession has undergone significant paradigm shifts in recent years, and Touro College of Dental Medicine at New York Medical College was built to respond to and lead the way in shaping those changes.

As the newest dental school in the country, we have created a program at TCDM based on a strong biomedical foundation, sound in its evidence, research and development, and geared toward educating critical thinkers trained in dental health as an integral part of overall primary healthcare. Located on the New York Medical College campus and within the Touro College and University System, we are ideally positioned to foster collaboration across disciplines, an approach that will drive important advances in both the clinical care of patients and research into diseases of the mouth as they affect and are affected by the rest of the body.

In the last decade, rapidly advancing technology has created a boom in digital dentistry, a more precise, more efficient and less invasive approach to care.

In the last decade, rapidly advancing technology has created a boom in digital dentistry, a more precise, more efficient and less invasive approach to care. We have recruited a faculty of best-in-class practitioners, invested in cutting-edge technology, and designed our facilities, from the ground up, to accommodate and advance these techniques. I don't believe there is another school in the country better equipped and more committed to training the next generation of leaders in "NextGen" dentistry.

Touro is also distinguished by commitment to community, to serving the underserved and partnering with other institutions and organizations who are improving life and health for our neighbors across the Hudson Valley. This year marked the opening of our extraordinary clinical training facility, which is the core of our community commitment and which you will read more about in these pages.

This year we're proud to welcome our third class of students. Our student body represents a diversity of cultural and religious backgrounds, experiences and interests, enriched further by our Jewish heritage and commitment to these values. TCDM students are indeed exceptional, their Dental Aptitude Test scores upon entry placing them, on average, in the top 10 percent of



dental students nationwide. In person, they are everything we had hoped that they would be—bright, passionate and wholly committed, individual in their interests and communal in their purpose.

If I give myself the luxury of imagining our future graduates, I envision them going out into the world as not only extremely competent oral health providers but also pillars of their communities, forward-looking critical thinkers whose knowledge is wide-ranging and up-to-date and whose focus is truly on the patient. I know that they will rise to the complex challenges they face as providers in a fast-changing healthcare industry and that they will lead the way on issues and policies important to dentistry, to primary care and to their patients. I expect their strong moral compass will help light the path forward, and their empathy and humanity will guide them as they make the world a better place.

Dental education of the future, which we have been founded to deliver, is at its essence collaborative—among students, faculty and other healthcare disciplines; between clinical practice and the research enterprise; and with community partners equally committed to serving humanity. Creating a new dental school—the first in New York State in half a century—is a journey no one takes alone. We are enormously grateful to our partners and supporters, our talented and hard-working faculty and staff, our bold students who are pioneers with us in this new endeavor, and their families and friends. To chronicle our journey together, I am delighted to present this inaugural issue of *The Apex*.



Ronnie Myers, D.D.S.
Dean

BY THE NUMBERS



CLASS OF 2020

2,149 total applications

511 applicants interviewed

112 students matriculated

Board Dental
Exam Pass Rate

94.2%

Compared to the
national average
of 89.9%



50% Female

48% Male

2% Undisclosed



20 DAT Score

COMBINED STATISTICS FOR CLASS OF 2020 AND 2021



80
undergraduate schools
represented

32,000 square-foot
clinical training facility

81 dental chairs

It takes a pioneering spirit and impressive track record to be part of the inaugural classes at New York's first new dental school in a half century. Beyond the numbers, our students express diverse talents and perspectives, and come together collegially to learn, thrive and enjoy themselves.

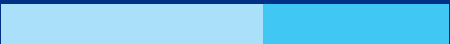


CLASS OF 2021

2,366 total applications

495 applicants interviewed

111 students matriculated



60% Male

40% Female

21 ★ DAT Score



average age
27



30 states represented
+2 students from Canada



34%
of the student body is from
New York

31 part-time faculty

18 full-time faculty

46 staff and administration

'THE TOURO DIFFERENCE'

Education in the Age of

Digital Dentistry

Naren Rajan, D.M.D., F.A.G.D., says sometimes he used to lose sleep the night before performing a complicated dental procedure, worried about the variables he might encounter translating a treatment plan into actual treatment. But since the advent of digital dentistry, he sleeps better knowing it's possible to envision the outcome before performing the procedure.

"Digital dentistry reduces the guesswork," says Dr. Rajan, TCDM's Assistant Director of Digital Dentistry. "Before the surgery, I know exactly how it's going to go. With digital dentistry's workflow, patients and practitioners are much more informed, and they get superior results. That's what we want to teach students."



he rise of digital dentistry was indeed the spark of inspiration behind the founding of Touro College of Dental Medicine. Struck by how quickly novel techniques and technologies were advancing and knowing that, historically, dental schools tended to be slow to embrace change, Edward Farkas, D.D.S., Vice Dean, had a brainstorm to create a school that trained practitioners of the future in dental techniques of the future.

“Over the last ten years, there’s been a huge paradigm shift in digital dentistry,” says Dr. Farkas. “It’s overtaken the profession, and students aren’t always prepared. The very idea behind TCDM is to make sure students are trained in these techniques. That’s the Touro difference. We’ve invested in infrastructure for the new age of digital dentistry incorporating it for all patient care, and we’ve recruited leaders in the field to teach our students.”

Toward that end, Dr. Farkas recruited the brother-sister team of Drs. Alan and Barbara Jurim, internationally known experts in CAD/CAM technologies whose Long Island dental lab, Jurim Dental Studio, is at the cutting edge of digital dentistry and who hail from dental royalty (their father and the studio’s founder, Adrian Jurim, M.D.T., was a renowned pioneering dental ceramicist). Joining the Jurims at TCDM are Sunil Abraham, Jurim Dental’s Director of Technology, and Dr. Rajan, who has a practice in New Jersey and lectures nationally on incorporating digital workflows into general dentistry. Together with TCDM leadership, the team is building an unrivalled, innovative digital dentistry program and curriculum.

“We’ve shaped our program to teach the latest technologies and utilize the latest equipment, and we are innovating well beyond other schools,” says Alan Jurim, D.D.S., Clinical Assistant Professor and Director of Digital Dentistry. “Touro is not just giving students access to an intraoral scanner—we’re giving them access to an entire ecosystem that allows all the tools of digital dentistry to come together so they have that practical experience when they leave.”

TCDM’S DIGITAL ECOSYSTEM

The instruments and technologies that Touro’s faculty and students have access to include optical intraoral scanners for noninvasive diagnostics that create a digital 3D map of the teeth and oral structures, and 2D and 3D radiographs that scan a full circle around the head for a complete view of the facial anatomy. TCDM is also adding digital cameras for facial portraiture and video, which create a more extensive digital record that goes beyond impressions of solely dentitions and gums, allowing for better and more personalized patient-centric treatment planning.



LEFT TO RIGHT: Alan Jurim, D.D.S., Sunil Abraham, Barbara Jurim, D.D.S., and Naren Rajan, D.M.D., F.A.G.D.

While the hardware is impressive, the true revolution of digital dentistry is best appreciated in the software. After careful and extensive information technology setup across the school, any patient’s digital data—including 3D radiographs and eventually facial portraits and video—can be viewed by any properly credentialed student or faculty member, from any computer terminal on campus or securely connected remote laptop. Everyone working on a patient, from intake to oral surgeon to the patient him- or herself, can see the same information and collaborate closely on a multi-perspective treatment plan.

“Digital dentistry is all about aligning data sets,” says Mr. Abraham, TCDM’s Digital Technology Administrator, who notes that the “enterprise scale” of the school’s digital dentistry program is unprecedented. The vast technology infrastructure here is up-to-the-moment and cutting-edge because it’s built from the ground up and did not have to contend with existing outmoded IT, which is the challenge facing most existing dental schools.

Touro expects to soon add 3D printers to its inventory to generate dental models, oral appliances and surgical guides. Eventually 3D CAD/CAM mills may be added for students to learn how to manufacture crowns, bridges and other dental prosthetics. This means that digital dentistry can replace workflows from start to finish. Instead of X-rays, films and molds, stone and wax, and days or weeks in the lab, digital dentistry allows practitioners—and now, Touro faculty and students—to go from an oral scanner to a 3D printer to a resin model, all with onsite equipment.



"I learned with wax and stone," says Dr. Rajan, who has been digital since 2007. "If a patient came in with a number of things going on, it wasn't always clear where to begin. Digital dentistry establishes a way for the patient's whole team to envision the final results, then plan the treatment in a stepwise manner." This includes creating crowns, veneers, implants—whatever the treatment calls for—digitally. "Something you see on a screen," he explains, "becomes something you hold in your hand."

Take the planning for implant insertion. Thanks to technological advances and the advent of digital dentistry, the implant placement is digitally planned and the restoration manufactured before the patient is in the chair. This workflow ensures the safest and most predictable outcome for the implant patient. No guesswork, no invasive procedure, and the patient, notes Dr. Farkas, "goes home with teeth."

"Guided implant surgery gives us the tools to plan and virtually perform a surgery before we ever touch a patient," says Dr. Jurim. "That gives you tremendous insight into the complexity of the surgery and making sure you've done everything possible so that surgery is as fast, safe and comprehensive."

TEACHING THE BEST OF BOTH WORLDS

Barbara Jurim, D.D.S., a prosthodontist and Clinical Assistant Professor and Assistant Director of Digital Dentistry, emphasizes that while digital dentistry is more efficient and more comfortable for patients, it is not a shortcut for practitioners or for students. They must have a full understanding of the diagnostics and interventions behind the technology. "D2 students learn how dental procedures were traditionally done so they can get an appreciation as to why the digital alternative may be better," she says. "Without having that understanding, it's hard to make that judgment or even understand the benefit of digital." She notes, for instance, that students learn to make a crown with traditional methods first, then learn how to make it using a digital impression.

The Jurims' team and other TCDM faculty are developing a digital dentistry pre-clinical curriculum that augments traditional learning with the digital perspective. So far, that has included instruction to the D1 class on diagnostic digital impressioning, as well as building the skillset with the D2 class to digitally impress fixed prosthetics and use digital software analysis tools to critically evaluate and improve their work.

"At Touro, we take the best of both worlds—traditional clinical dentistry and digital dentistry—and combine them into a system that is unique in [dental education]," says Alan Jurim. "Students today are more comfortable with technology. For them, it's almost second nature. For us, we know it's the future of dentistry."

WHAT OUR STUDENTS SAY

I picked Touro College of Dental Medicine because it was a brand new institution with an emphasis on technology and innovation. Some of the schools I looked at had been doing things the same way for many years. At Touro, there is a willingness to make changes and evolve in its approach to teaching and curriculum.

Sonia Suri, Class of 2020

In this era, everything is highly technology-driven, especially dentistry. I chose TCDM for its top-of-the-line digital advances and the chance to experience how advanced technology integrates into dentistry. Learning in class and shadowing in the clinic, I'm seeing first-hand how digital dentistry can take the efficiency and quality of patient care to a whole new level.

Yujun Wang, Class of 2020

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

Dr. Raquel Rozdolski and the Role of Anesthesiology



The very presence of Raquel Rozdolski, D.M.D., a dentist anesthesiologist, on the faculty of TCDM is a sign that the newest dental school in the country is doing things a bit differently. Traditionally, anesthesia for dental patients may only be seen in the oral surgery and periodontal clinics in dental schools. Few schools have a dedicated dentist anesthesiologist to provide the anesthesia across all clinics. But dentist anesthesiologists like Dr. Rozdolski, whose post-dental school training includes a three-year dental anesthesia residency in general anesthesiology, represent a new standard of safety and commitment to excellence, par for the course for the dental education of the future.

WHAT DO YOU TEACH?

In the classroom, I co-direct the Pain and Anxiety Course with Dr. Howard Israel. My focus in the course is on modalities of anesthesia, anxiety control as well as emergencies in the dental office. Clinically, I'll provide the anesthesia primarily for oral surgery cases, which is unique, as oral surgeons can and are trained to provide their own sedation. However, Touro recognizes the importance of a dedicated anesthesiologist for surgical cases where sedation is required, which is truly the direction the dental field needs to be aiming for. This model significantly benefits the students who will shadow me during sedation cases. They will learn how to keep a time-based record of anesthesia, learn about the drugs I administer and clinically see the effects those medications have on the patient. The fact that our students are going to be exposed to anesthesiology in the dental setting before advancing onto

residency or private practice is very progressive.

WHY DID YOU COME TO TCDM?

My passion is educating students, upcoming practitioners of dentistry and future colleagues to understand the importance of having an anesthesiologist in the room if a patient requires sedation. When dentists are working in the mouth, they're working in the airway. The safest way to sedate that patient is with a dedicated anesthesiologist, and Touro recognizes and respects that. Of course I also hope to motivate our students to become as interested in the field of anesthesiology as I was when I was a dental student at Tufts.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN THAT TCDM HAS AN ANESTHESIOLOGIST ON FACULTY?

It shows that Touro is really on point with the times in recognizing the importance of having a separate anesthesiologist in

surgical rooms. This is a growing trend in dentistry, and Touro is at the forefront of respecting the field of anesthesiology in the dental setting. Dental health is integral to overall health. It's not just a tooth that dentists are working on, not just a mouth—it's an entire system.

WHAT'S MOST EXCITING ABOUT WORKING IN A NEW DENTAL SCHOOL, AND WHAT IS MOST CHALLENGING?

At older institutions, the explanation of why they may do things a certain way is, "We've always done it this way and it works." But here, we are creating something from the ground up. We can try new things, see how they work, and from there determine what the best model is for the institution. That's the challenge, too: We're doing things that have never been done here before, so we have to be willing to continually adapt our model to what works best in this setting.

WAS TCDM'S COMMUNITY MISSION PART OF THE DRAW FOR YOU?

The whole reason I went into anesthesiology as a specialty was because I had such strong motivation to help my community and provide access to care to a population that generally avoids dental treatment. Touro's mission goes hand in hand with my passion for this field, and I'm grateful to be a part of this community-driven team.



TOURO DENTAL HEALTH

“PATIENTS FOR LIFE”

Dr. Edward Farkas has a vivid memory from his own dental education more than thirty years ago. In a class on making dentures, he toiled away with a set of precise instructions. But something was missing. “I didn’t know the end game, what it was supposed to accomplish,” recalls Dr. Farkas, who is now Vice Dean of Touro College of Dental Medicine. “I never really had a deep understanding of what we were doing for people.”

As TCDM's aspirations have become reality, Dr. Farkas knows that the tunnel vision of old, the lack of connection to people, will never be the case for this new generation of students. Rather, they will have an education closely connected to practice, in service of their Hudson Valley community and deeply enmeshed in the broader world of healthcare.

That connection comes into full view on the third floor of TCDM, in 32,000 square feet of modern clinical-education and treatment space, known as Touro Dental Health. The clinic, which opened for business in January, offers comprehensive services to Hudson Valley area patients of all ages and income levels, including dental exams, implant surgery, cosmetic dentistry, orthodontics, advanced dental reconstruction, and TMJ diagnosis and treatment. Beginning in June, the new oral health facility will serve as a training ground for third-year, and eventually fourth-year, TCDM students. The clinic aims to reach 400 patients a day once it is in full operation. The goal is to provide quality care at affordable prices, to streamline processes for greater efficiency and responsiveness, and to train the next generation of practitioners in NextGen dentistry. "Across the country, few places with 81 chairs have such state-of-the-art equipment, high-quality care, and affordable pricing," says Dr. Farkas.

EDUCATING IN A PRIVATE PRACTICE SETTING

Built to replicate a private practice—several practices, actually—the clinic's main area holds four 14-chair clinical practice units, where students in teams of two will perform general dentistry under the close supervision of the clinical faculty. The space also includes an intake examination unit and practices for pediatrics, oral surgery, and faculty-provided care. "Our outstanding faculty have excellent everyday clinical experience," notes Dr. Farkas. "There's a certain tension that comes from treating human beings, skills you build up. Faculty members will be able to transmit to students those skills that come with experience."

Each of the practice units is in a different color scheme and named after a different Hudson Valley county, "to connect our students with the patients of the communities they'll be treating," notes TCDM Dean Ronnie Myers, D.D.S.

Students will each be assigned to a single practice area, and to its patients, throughout their clinical education. When the students graduate, their patients and supervising faculty stay with the practice, alongside the next class of student trainees. "Our guiding principle is that we want to teach students to be outstanding general dentists," says Dr. Farkas. The students' hands-on experience is expected to reflect that goal. By graduation, every student will have experience in general practice dentistry as

CONNECTING WITH COMMUNITIES TODAY AND TOMORROW

Bert Goldfinger, D.D.S.
**Director of Preclinical
Education**



Bert Goldfinger, D.D.S., has worked upstate and downstate, in rural and urban communities, in private practice and in institutional settings with vulnerable populations, including at the Veterans Administration, nursing homes and juvenile detention centers. He has been a successful restaurateur and an experienced teacher at his alma mater, New York University College of Dentistry. All of this, he believes, helps him—first as Director of the Clinic, and, most recently, as Director of Preclinical Education—carry out the mission of TCDM and Touro Dental Health, serving the wider Hudson Valley community with expert care and training the next generation of oral healthcare providers who will in turn serve their own diverse communities.

"The students are learning from us, but we are also learning from them. We value their ideas as we build one of the finest dental programs in the country."

Treating patients in his upscale Manhattan office as well as his private practice in a rural area of the Upper Hudson Valley, Dr. Goldfinger has seen first-hand the oral health disparities that exist in different communities. "I believe in Touro's vision to provide comprehensive oral healthcare to the Hudson Valley, which involves many people who have not had much access to dental services," says Dr. Goldfinger, who commutes more than 100 miles to TCDM each day, from his home in Hudson, NY. "We are training students to become big-spirited, open-minded practitioners who are committed to their communities and able to see the global picture of health, of which dentistry is one spoke in a large wheel."



well as training in certain specialty areas, such as the insertion of a single implant in a clinical setting. Unlike in Dr. Farkas' student days, today's TCDM students will always have their education connected to the end goal of any process or technique: to make life better for patients.

BUILDING THE FUTURE

Building from the ground up is a rare privilege for a healthcare facility, particularly one of Touro Dental Health's size. Because there wasn't even a bearing wall in the raw space, TCDM was able to build a facility uniquely designed for how dental care is delivered today and to lead the way to the future. Each of the 81 dental treatment stations utilizes the most advanced breakthrough dental technologies, including digital impressions, digital treatment planning, 3D imaging, guided implant surgery and endodontic microscopy.

"An enormous amount of planning has gone into the design and execution of our new facility," says Dr. Farkas. "We were able to create an environment that

redefines the training of future dental professionals. The digital technology used at Touro Dental Health will offer our patients precision, comfort, and efficiency in their treatments."

Student pairs will be assigned to each chair, and all the necessary equipment

"Opening an oral healthcare facility of this magnitude and quality will ensure access to care for underserved populations and others in the community who seek quality, low-cost dental care," **Dr. Myers**

will be on hand and within an arm's reach. Students will have easily accessible computers that will allow them to take X-rays, record treatment and communicate with faculty. Patients will also have access to their own monitor, allowing them to fully

participate in reviewing their treatment options and patient education. Ensuring patient comfort will be a guiding principle at Touro Dental Health. "Dental schools are not known for making the most efficient use of a patient's time," Dr. Farkas says of clinical-education practices. This is another tradition TCDM plans to update. By building the practice and processes from the ground up and employing the latest digital dentistry tools to diagnose, collaborate, treat and assess, Touro Dental Health is designed to maximize efficiency, reducing the time of many procedures, Dr. Farkas estimates. "If we can do in an hour and a half what most clinics take three hours to do, our patients will become patients for life," he adds.

CONNECTED TO THE COMMUNITY AND THE CARE CONTINUUM

The opening of Touro Dental Health is a part of the school's mission to improve the oral healthcare delivery network in New York State, where the population has grown by 4.5 million people since the last dental school opened nearly 50 years ago. A 2015 survey published by the American

Dental Association Health Policy Institute and Families USA shows that too many New Yorkers do not get the oral health services they need because of "trouble finding a dentist." Barriers to access include limited Medicaid and insurance

coverage, a shortage of providers in many communities, and challenges with mobility and transportation, especially among seniors.

"Opening an oral healthcare facility of this magnitude and quality will ensure access to care for underserved populations and others in the community who seek quality, low-cost dental care," said Dr. Myers, who sees the clinic fundamentally connected to the overall healthcare of the community. He notes that future plans call for adding space to collaborate with other frontline clinicians, beginning with social workers and nurse practitioners, as well as pharmacists and pharmacy students. "Our program will evolve by developing group practices that have inter-professional relationships with social work, primary medical care, pharmacy, speech pathology and nutrition—on site with our oral healthcare providers. Studies show that inter-professional coordinated care generally leads to better outcomes. In our practice model, if we can have that inter-professional care under one roof we might be able to create oral healthcare providers with that goal."

THINK DIFFERENT

With its gleaming modern technology and sweeping views of the Hudson Valley, in its setup, its size and commitment to the community as well as to comprehensive care, Touro Dental Health upholds Touro College of Dental Medicine's informal mantra: think different. "We have an opportunity to rethink the clinical educational process," says Dr. Farkas. "If it's always been done a certain way, then we question it. We are very nimble when it comes to putting people's ideas into action. An idea can take you wherever you want to go."

SHAPING THE PATIENT EXPERIENCE

Vivian Pastor
Director of Clinical Operations



When she was a girl growing up on Manhattan's Lower East Side and getting quality healthcare at a community clinic, Vivian Pastor wondered about something that surely does not occur to most young people. "We always had such good care available to us at low cost, and I never understood how it translated into the doctor getting paid," she muses. "How do you acquire the patients, how does the visit translate into a dollar, and how does the world of insurance work? I guess I've always been fascinated by revenue cycles."

Today, she is instrumental in answering those questions for Touro Dental Health, TCDM's oral health facility. As Director of Clinical Operations, she is making sure all administrative staff, clinical support staff and systems are in place as the clinic ramps up and reaches out, aiming to draw 400 patients a day and preparing for the 100-plus D3 students who arrive this summer to put their education into action. She is working with the front-desk staff—the community's portal of entry—to create a comfortable, welcoming experience for every patient and to drive the patient-first culture that defines the Touro Dental brand.

"All the services are here: general dentistry, oral surgery, endodontics, periodontics, pediatric dentistry. It's cohesive comprehensive care, at an affordable price. This is really important when you're serving a community in need."

Ms. Pastor has worked in the medical field for 24 years, in private practice and larger hospital settings, moving from the front of the office answering phones to the back of the office managing the revenue cycle. Throughout her career, she has thrived on learning new skills while always keeping the focus on patients. As a Spanish speaker she is playing a special role in advocating for and educating Touro Dental patients from the Hispanic community, which translates to better treatment and compliance on the patient's part and elevates the idea of preventive dentistry.

"Going to the dentist is a relationship," she says. "We are building something here—a well-rounded team of expert practitioners under one roof—that should bring great comfort to the community. On top of that, we are training phenomenal future dentists, so the impact on the community lasts for generations."

Research

COLLABORATE TO INNOVATE

Building a Research Enterprise

WITH DR. SALOMON AMAR



Today's research is tomorrow's medicine, and Touro College of Dental Medicine is busy building a research enterprise to advance dental medicine, drive forward new treatments and restore patients to better health.



"Research is how the field progresses," says Salomon Amar, D.D.S., Ph.D., Provost for Biomedical Research and Chief Research Officer for the Touro College and University System and Senior Associate Dean for Research at Touro College of Dental Medicine. "While we are in the embryonic stages of building our research portfolio at TCDM, we are very proud to be building an enterprise that will be competitive in a number of areas."

Focusing on strategic areas where the school can have the greatest impact, TCDM plans to create or collaborate in creating select centers of excellence in: digital dentistry; early detection of oral cancer; salivary diagnostics; tissue regeneration and remodeling; and tissue mimicry through stem cells. TCDM's research program has the advantage of a collaborative environment with New York Medical College and the Touro College and University System, which can bring various perspectives to bear on dental and oral bioscience.

Dr. Amar and his team are building the school's research enterprise along three fronts: student research and training the next generation of pioneers in dental discoveries; faculty development, supporting a pipeline of researchers who will advance oral health through collaborative investigation; and clinical research, which will help drive the latest discoveries from bench to bedside.

Building a Research Enterprise

STUDENT RESEARCH

The first class of dental students rotated into biomedical labs across New York Medical College over the summer of 2017 for the inaugural 12-week student research program (see sidebar). The research projects, which in a final presentation to the TCDM community, crossed a range of disciplines, including immunology, microbiology and pharmacology.

FACULTY DEVELOPMENT

To support a pipeline of faculty research, TCDM investigators are encouraged to apply for bridge and seed grants in collaboration with New York Medical College researchers. Bridge grants

CLINICAL RESEARCH

Dr. Amar has been in discussions with pharmaceutical companies to engage in clinical research at NYMC and TCDM. He hopes to get clinical trials underway soon and solicit dental faculty participation in the trials. Engaging dental faculty members in clinical research has the potential to translate into publication and scholarly activity. This, he notes, will raise the profile of the dental school. Several potential clinical research trials are currently under discussion.

COLLABORATION: THE COIN OF THE REALM

"The mouth is not a separate entity," says Dr. Amar, echoing TCDM's mandate to integrate dental science and medicine into the landscape of overall health. "If the mouth is ailing the rest of the body is certainly also affected."

Dr. Amar's own research explores the mouth in connection with the rest of the body. He has investigated, for example, how advanced oral infection and gum disease move to the bloodstream and spread infection to other organs, including the heart. He has shown, first with animal models then clinical trials, that patients with advanced periodontal disease can, over time, be at greater risk of developing arterial sclerosis. He has studied connections between oral health and other systemic conditions, such as diabetes, rheumatoid arthritis and stroke.

He emphasizes that overall care of patients, particularly those suffering from multi-system chronic diseases, is so complex that a single practitioner—whether trained in dentistry, cardiology or endocrinology—cannot solve the challenge alone. "You cannot claim expertise on everything, therefore collaboration is mandatory in therapeutic approaches and in biomedical research," he says. "One has to be humble enough to accept you are not going to be able to solve the problem on your own. However, with the proper team, yes, you will."

To move the field forward, clinicians, researchers and dental students must collaborate early and often with medical colleagues. When treating patients with diabetes, for instance, dentists and endocrinologists must "make sure the conversation goes both ways," as the patient's overall health influences his oral health and vice versa. "I'm committed to making sure that this new generation of dental students is in sync with our medical school colleagues and that they understand each other and speak the same language," he says.

sustain research projects serving as interim funding until external funding is secured, and seed grants enable researchers to gather preliminary data on novel concepts. The grant program aims to stimulate collaboration among investigators across schools and departments, as well as to help researchers develop their projects sufficiently to apply for external funding.

In the 2017-2018 program year, Dr. Amar, in collaboration with faculty members from NYMC and Touro College of Pharmacy, received seed funding to investigate a novel concept that links periodontal infection and inflammation to pulmonary hypertension.





“Doing research exercises a different part of the brain and develops a different set of skills than classroom learning and clinical dentistry.”

“UNDERSTANDING THE SCIENTIFIC PROCESS” INAUGURAL STUDENT RESEARCH ELECTIVE

Since she was a finalist in a high school science competition, Alaina Edelmuth '20 has sought opportunities to do biomedical research. So she was immediately interested in TCDM's summer research elective in collaboration with New York Medical College.

“Doing research exercises a different part of the brain and develops a different set of skills than classroom learning and clinical dentistry,” says the D2 student from Chicago. “And it helps dentists in practice, really understanding the scientific process and how we develop the materials and protocols treat patients every day.”

Alaina was one of five students who participated in TCDM's inaugural research elective, spending the summer in NYMC labs investigating various disease processes that intersect with oral health. Alaina's research, in the neurology lab, explored a genetic component of Juvenile Myoclonic Epilepsy and how it responds to a certain protein-blocking drug. The research also explored the process and consequences of inflammation, which could have profound implications in oral health. “Dentistry is tremendously focused on inflammation and the body's reaction to the bacteria,” she explains. “Any advances in understanding

inflammation in any part of the body can be useful long term for diagnosing, treating, preventing and ultimately curing periodontal disease and gingivitis.”

Other students' research explored a connection between hypertension and periodontitis, bone loss in periodontitis, and how an ingredient in cheese might have antibiotic effects. “We wanted to expose the community to research and dental student research,” says Dr. Salomon Amar. “This is how we move the field towards evidence-based dentistry, which will allow us to develop new therapeutics.”



CLOCKWISE:
George Rubin, Alaina Edelmuth, Steven Lin, Tracy Liang and Zev Kizelnik (not pictured) participated in TCDM's inaugural research presentations.

Give Kids A Smile Day

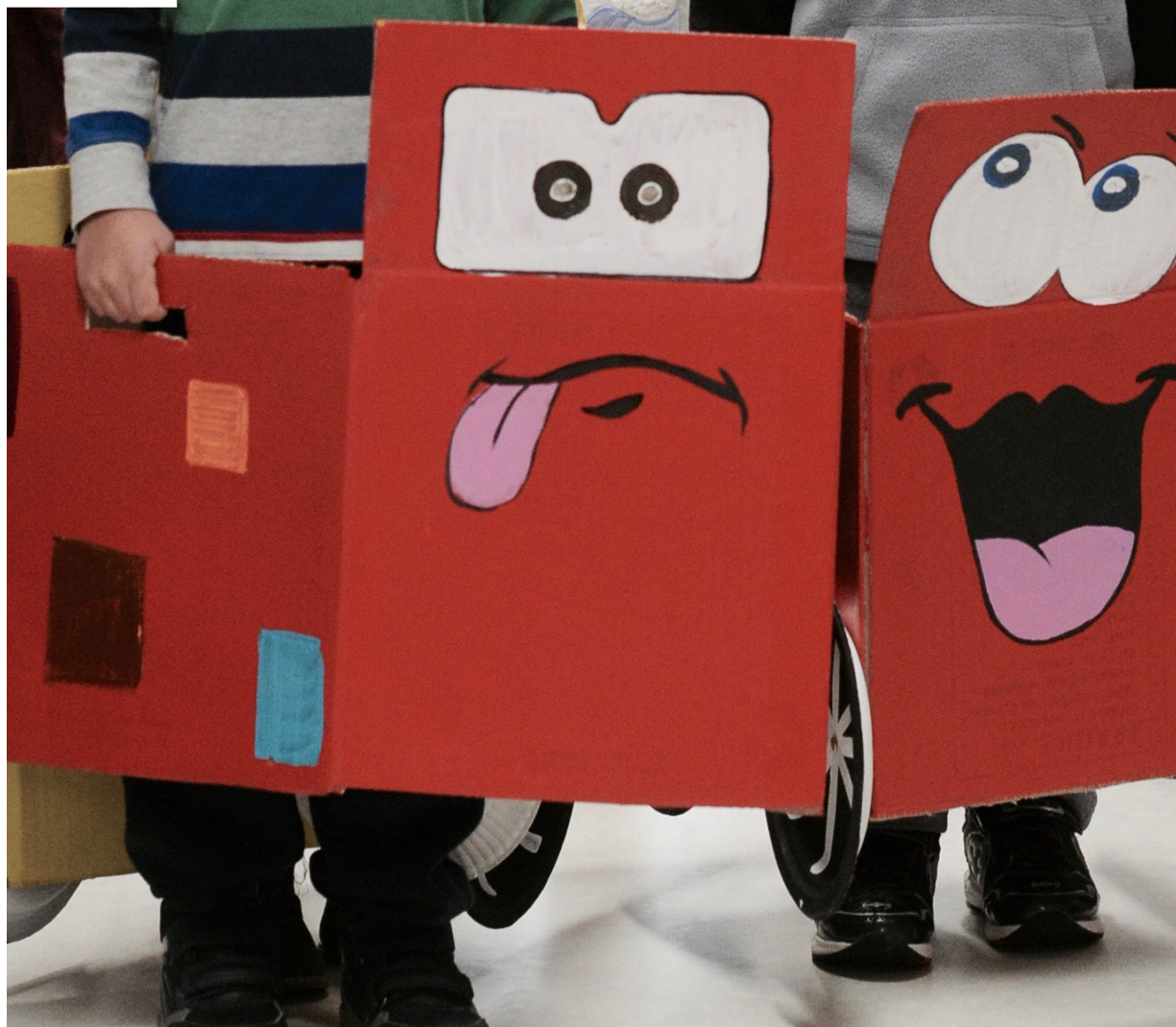
AT TOURO DENTAL HEALTH



In partnership with the Ninth District Dental Association,

Touro College of Dental Medicine provided free oral health services and education to more than 40 Westchester County preschool and elementary-aged children on national Give Kids A Smile Day. Children received free dental screenings, including fluoride and prophylaxis treatments, and participated in educational crafts and oral-health activities led by TCDM students (organized by D2 student Ben Kahan). Oral health is strongly connected to overall health, yet many underinsured children, or those enrolled in Medicaid, do not receive annual dental services.

“Tooth decay is the number one chronic infectious disease in children in the US, but together we can change that,” said Renuka Rao Bijoor, D.D.S., who is with the Ninth District Dental Association and co-chaired the event, which was attended by several state lawmakers. Held at Touro’s new state-of-the-art 81-chair dental teaching practice, the event exemplifies TCDM’s mission to improve oral health throughout our community, as well as the school’s commitment to partner with organizations like the Ninth District Dental Association to increase access to care and advance our profession.



TCDM leadership and community dentists from the Ninth District Dental Association welcomed several elected officials to Give Kids A Smile Day, including David Carlucci, New York State Senator for the 38th District, Sherlita Amler, M.D., Westchester County Commissioner of Health, Kevin Byrne, New York State Assemblyman for the 94th District, Gary Pretlow, New York State Assemblyman for the 89th District, and representatives from the office of Terrence Murphy, New York State Senator for the 90th District.

An Eye-opening Partnership to Treat Patients with Special Needs

Early in her career, Susan

Disenso-Browne, D.D.S., helped a young man with special needs who had a painfully fractured tooth but was unable to communicate or understand his treatment needs. Once she was able to calm him enough to look in his mouth, make the diagnosis and eventually remove the offending tooth, “he became a totally different person,” she recalls. “At first, people thought he would come in punching, he was so resistant and in so much pain. But at the follow-up visit, without the pain, he gave me such a big hug.”

“What a tremendous thing, being able to help people who have no one else,” continues Dr. Disenso-Browne, who is an Assistant Professor of Dental Medicine at TCDM and practiced at the Westchester Institute for Human Development (WIHD) from 2011 to 2017.

“I hope we can pass that feeling along to new practitioners coming into the field.”

WIHD, which is on the New York Medical College campus, provides comprehensive healthcare, including oral care, to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Thanks to a collaboration between TCDM and WIHD, dental students will have the chance to deepen their understanding of assessing and treating patients with special needs. Over a one-week rotation, teams of four D3 students will visit the institute and work with whatever patients each day holds. Students will work with adults and children, across a wide range of disabilities, and will focus on oral health as part of overall health. The rotation, due to begin in fall 2018, will also include work in the institute’s mobile van, which travels into the community to further increase access to care.

“Students will learn how a person’s medical status can affect their dental treatment, because often the disabilities we see present with other medical complications,” Dr. Disenso-Browne explains. “We also talk about being able to find ways to communicate with each patient. We may encounter anxiety and resistance, so students learn to navigate behavior management, from desensitization techniques up to general anesthesia. We think the whole experience will be eye-opening for students.”



Founding Dean Jay Goldsmith, D.M.D., originated the idea and, along with Dean Ronnie Myers, D.D.S., is bringing it to fruition with the collaboration of Susan Fox, Ph.D., President and CEO of WIHD, and Patricia Seagriff, D.D.S., Director of WIHD Dental Services. The team hopes the program will inspire some students to dedicate themselves over their careers to people with special needs. But a broader goal is to give students experience with and a deeper understanding of this population’s complex comprehensive and oral health needs in order to become informed practitioners who can assess, treat or refer effectively. Students are already showing an interest, and at least one student has recently begun volunteering at WIHD.

The collaboration is the first of many that TCDM plans to build with partners throughout the community to reduce barriers to healthcare access and improve the quality of life for people up and down the Hudson Valley.





Professional Advancement

More than 30 new dentists, residents and students discussed “Everyday Ethics for New Dentists,” at a Continuing Medical Education (CME) event jointly hosted by TCDM and the Ninth District Dental Association. Dean Ronnie Myers, D.D.S., and Eric Wachs, D.D.S., Director of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery at TCDM, led the session, and were joined by community dentists including (far left) Bhagwati Mistry, D.D.S., and Gary Scharoff, D.D.S., President of the Ninth District Dental Association, for thought-provoking case discussions of ethical issues. This was the first of what the school anticipates will be many CME events hosted at TCDM for the broader dental community.

Supporting Special Needs Communities

TCDM students volunteered their time and skills at the 43rd Annual Hudson Valley Region Spring Special Olympics at West Point Military Academy, in collaboration with the Westchester Institute for Human Development and the Ninth District Dental Association. More than 1,000 athletes and coaches from across the state participated in competitive events including Track & Field, Swimming and Adaptive Games. TCDM students participated in screenings and scribing findings from the screenings, as well as providing health education and event support, and enjoyed the opportunity to meet these talented athletes.



Reaching Out to Underserved Populations

TCDM students joined with New York Medical College students to provide a variety of free health services to about 40 residents of Grasslands Homeless Shelter in Valhalla. D1 and D2 dental students provided oral health education and nutritional counseling, handed out toothbrushes, toothpaste and floss, and discussed each patient’s options for follow-up care at Touro Dental Health. The event is the beginning of many outreach opportunities for TCDM students to connect with underserved communities and put their education and skills to work beyond campus.

Advocating for Our Community

As ambassadors for our school and community, students had the chance to meet with New York State Senator Andrea Stewart-Cousins to discuss TCDM’s mission for community outreach. Senator Stewart-Cousins has been a strong supporter for the school since its inception and enjoyed hearing about each student’s background and passions. She is one of many elected officials who have visited the school and extended their commitment.



ON CAMPUS

In two short years, TCDM students have built a rich and fulfilling campus life that has them interacting and networking with their chosen profession, giving back to the community, attending to their own health and wellness—and just having fun amid the challenge and hard work of their studies.



The Chromatic Scalpers, TCDM's first a cappella group, is a fixture on campus. The popular co-ed student ensemble performs at both college events and public venues across the region, showing that our students' talents span far beyond dentistry.



There are limitless opportunities for TCDM students to pursue their interests through a variety of student-driven clubs and organizations, or take on a leadership role in the Student Government Association.



To help Puerto Ricans still without daily necessities months after Hurricane Maria, student volunteers assembled 400 hygiene kits containing toothpaste, toothbrushes, soaps and shampoo products, tubes of denture creams, and wet wipes. Fundraising events through TCDM's Community Outreach Club and Disaster Relief Committee raised nearly \$1200 to support the Hispanic Federation and the International Medical Corps.



Trading in scrubs for formal attire, students took a much-needed break from long nights in the lab to attend TCDM's first-ever Spring Formal.



Students took a break from studying to fill up on latkes, donuts and other holiday treats during the annual holiday dinner.



While they collaborate to improve interdisciplinary healthcare for patients, TCDM and New York Medical College students were all about the friendly competition on the court during the 2017 basketball tournament.



TCDM's D2 students and faculty were among the 53,000 dental practitioners from more than 150 countries attending the Greater New York Dental Meeting in December at the Javits Center. The meeting is one of the many regional and national events where our students and faculty can network and meet colleagues, share ideas, and keep current on the latest trends in the field.



The American Student Dental Association

sponsored a month of wellness events in September to make sure hard-working dental students attend to their bodies as well as their minds. The healthy events included deliveries of farm-fresh Hudson Valley apples; fitness, yoga and martial arts classes; spa and massage therapy; and a hike.



From brushing up on interview skills to fabricating wax teeth in the Sim Lab, about 50 undergraduates visited campus during TCDM's first Pre-Dental Day program. Among the speakers, Founding Dean Jay Goldsmith, D.M.D., noted "incredible interest" in the dental profession, which recently topped a nationwide survey of Best Jobs.



ADAM GADBOIS 2020
COLUMBIA, MO

...

Inspired by Dentistry

A

young school seems like the perfect place for Adam Gadbois, TCDM's youngest student, who has been a trailblazer since he enrolled at the University of Missouri at age 14. "I was drawn to the opportunity to be at a new school, to have more influence over the structure of program, to help build a better dental school," says Adam, a D2, who has been actively involved in giving feedback to TCDM faculty and leadership on course instruction.

Still, he admits that it took something of a leap of faith to come to a school that when he toured it "was an unrealized project. I remember walking into an empty shell," he recalls. "But now I can say: I've been astounded at how the school turned out, just astonished at how they've built out the clinic and pre-clinical spaces."

Adam is now 21 years old and says the age gap with his classmates feels as if it has narrowed, compared with when he was a teenager living at home during his college years. After graduation, he plans to head home to Columbia and join his parents' dental practice. "My parents have always been a huge influence on my life," he says. "I'm inspired by the life they've created."

He likes New York more than he thought he would—and he's even picking up a new skill. "I'm getting good at using my car horn," he says. "The cars flying past me on the Sprain Brook... Traffic is different here than in Missouri."



MARNI BLUMENTHAL 2021
GLADWYNE, PA

...

All in the Family

L

ike many students, Marni Blumenthal '21 says TCDM feels like family. But for her, the feeling is quite literal. She's so enthusiastic about the atmosphere, education and opportunities she

finds at Touro that her twin brother was inspired to apply and will be a D1 next year. She and her brother continue a family legacy of dentists that includes their parents, uncle, grandfather and older brother.

In addition to what she calls the "family vibe," Marni also loves TCDM's community commitment. As an Aging Studies major at Ithaca College, she became fascinated by the challenges of aging, particularly in America and especially in regard to healthcare. She envisions a course of study, community work and a dental practice that reflect her commitment to helping people age with the healthcare they need and quality of life they deserve. She hopes to eventually create opportunities at TCDM to pass along what she's learned about attending to the care of elders, including not talking down to them or speaking overly loudly, and involving them in conversations rather than speaking only to their caregivers.

"I love that this school, as a brand new school, really wants our feedback and will make changes based on it," says Marni. "Educating on how we could improve care for elderly individuals is a change I would like to bring to my school and my classmates."



JALEEL BOLDEN 2020
BROOKLYN, NY

...

'Where You Want to Be'

Jaleel Bolden always dreamed of being a dentist. He didn't know any, but it seemed like a well-paying job with minimal stress and ample autonomy. As he gets closer to his dream, he finds the profession a greater fit than he ever suspected. He likes working with his hands and is passionate about science, inspired by a college organic chemistry course. He loves teaching and envisions himself as a dentist educating his patients. He embraces systems and efficiencies, something he foresees helping him both organize his practice and create effective treatment plans.

His dream almost did not come true. As a child growing up in poor neighborhoods in Crown Heights, Brooklyn, and Atlanta, Georgia, he didn't apply himself as a student and graduated from high school seeing few options. He pursued pieces of his childhood dream, taking Dental Hygiene courses and receiving an Associate's Degree in Dental Laboratory Technology, which he enjoyed and graduated at the top of his class.

When he had a son, he realized he was only getting halfway towards his dream. "Rather than talking about it, I wanted to be able to tell my son that I tried—even if I tried and failed," says Jaleel, who is now the father of an eight-year-old son and seven-year-old daughter. "I hope I can be an example to show people that it's not where you come from, it's about where you want to be. I can say as someone who almost didn't: Find what you like and go for it wholeheartedly."



AMANDA UYEHARA 2021
CUPERTINO, CA

...

Fitness for Life

For Amanda Uyebara, the two advanced degrees she is pursuing make perfect sense together. A D1 at TCDM, she is also getting a Master's Degree at A.T. Still University in Arizona in Kinesiology, with a focus in Corrective Exercise and Orthopedic Rehabilitation. "As a healthcare professional, I emphasize the importance of one's overall health, not only as it pertains to the oral cavity," she says. "I see the body as completely linked. As a dentist, I want to advocate both oral health and physical wellbeing."

Her commitment to overall health runs deep. She comes from a family of dentists and physicians and has worked as a dental assistant in several offices. After completing her Bachelor's Degree in Nutrition Science, she competed nationally as a bodybuilder and worked as a personal trainer. She sees herself in the future as a practicing dentist using her corrective exercise and rehabilitation background to ensure the wellbeing of her peers and patients, who might be sitting in a chair for hours during a procedure.

She loves being at TCDM at its beginning because she feels that her voice is heard and that she is a vital part of a close-knit community. "I'm very proud to be part of this school," she says. "I truly feel that the school takes care of us and wants to ensure that we graduate as excellent dentists. They want to give us the best of the best."

Giving

2018 GALA

**IT TAKES THE VISION,
COLLABORATION
AND COMMITMENT
OF AN EXTRAORDINARY
GROUP OF GENEROUS
PROFESSIONALS,**

philanthropists, students, families, friends and local lawmakers to create a new dental school. This committed group came together in March to support Touro College of Dental Medicine at its second annual gala at the Ritz-Carlton in Westchester. The evening's honorees were Stanley M. Bergman, Chairman of the Board and CEO of Henry Schein, Inc., and TCDM Founding Dean Jay P. Goldsmith, D.M.D., Edward Farkas, D.D.S., Vice Dean and Chairman of Dentistry, presented community partnership awards to Ushi and Esti Stahler, Adele El Kareh, M.D., Ph.D., and Elias K. Hashim, D.D.S., for their commitment to advancing TCDM's mission to graduate outstanding dental professionals who will deliver excellent healthcare to their diverse communities.

Among those enjoying the evening were Rabbi Moshe Krupka, Executive Vice President of the Touro College and University System, with wife Chashie and Gala committee member Keikilani Brockley.



LEFT TO RIGHT: Ronnie Myers, D.D.S., and Edward Farkas, D.D.S. (2nd and 3rd from left), with Henry Schein, Inc. executives and guests Steven Kess, Stanley M. Bergman, A.J. Caffentzis, David Kochman, Marion Bergman, and Seema Bhansali toured TCDM's Simulation Laboratory, made possible by a generous donation from the Henry Schein Cares Foundation.

LEFT TO RIGHT: Advisory board member Jacob Katz, wife, Shani, daughter-in-law, Danielle, and son Danny, a D2 student, attended the Gala celebrating TCDM's second year of successes and milestones.



Edward Halperin, M.D., Chancellor of New York Medical College, was the Master of Ceremony at this year's Gala held at the Ritz-Carlton Westchester.



LEFT TO RIGHT
Honoree
Stanley M.
Bergman with
TCDM Dean
Ronnie Myers,
D.D.S.



LEFT TO RIGHT:
Touro leadership
and honorees
Ronnie Myers,
D.D.S., Stanley M.
Bergman, Elias K.
Hashim, D.D.S.,
Adele El Kareh,
M.D., Ph.D., Esti
Stahler, Ushi Stahler,
Jay Goldsmith,
D.M.D., Edward
Farkas, D.D.S., and
Alan Kadish, M.D.



LEFT TO RIGHT: Touro College
and University System President
Alan Kadish, M.D., congratulates
honorees Jay Goldsmith, D.M.D.,
and Stanley M. Bergman, with
wife Marion Bergman.



At the Leadership Dedication Reception, Ronnie Myers, D.D.S., and TCDM Leadership honored supporters with an unveiling of the donor wall of recognition at Touro Dental Health.

DONALD AND KEIKILANI BROCKLEY, P'20

Three Generations of Dentists

As a second-generation dentist who is raising

a third-generation dentist, Donald Brockley, D.M.D., has witnessed his chosen profession become one of the most desirable professions in America. “Over the last 40 years in practice, I have watched dentistry evolve,” says Dr. Brockley, who practices in Butler, PA, just outside of Pittsburgh. “Prior to that, I watched my father practice and learned about the dentistry of his time through the eyes of a child. Now, observing my daughter’s time in dentistry, I see more growth and respect for our profession than ever before.”

Dr. Brockley and his wife, Keikilani, have great faith that Touro College of Dental Medicine—guided by Jewish values, a talented and committed faculty, a rigorous curriculum, and a collaborative ethos—will guide their daughter, Ahono Gildersleeve, and the profession of dentistry into a bright future. “We are hopeful that TCDM will create a complete, modern, positive learning experience in all disciplines of dentistry, so that when our daughter graduates she will be able to immediately to perform at the highest level of competence,” the Brockleys say. “That is why we chosen to help Touro any way we can, big or small.”

Dr. and Mrs. Brockley are generous philanthropic partners at TCDM, serve on the Dental Board of Advisors, and sponsor and chair the annual golf championship. They regularly make the nearly 400-mile drive from the Pittsburgh area to plan and participate in TCDM fundraising events, including the golf championship and the gala.

With her own research background in neuropharmacology, Mrs. Brockley is a champion of women in science and a strong believer in women supporting one another. She also believes that “dentists need to be nicer to dentists; they need to raise each other up,” and she finds TCDM, with its emphasis on humanity and collaboration, the ideal place to encourage the fellowship of dentists.



“When we believe in something, we gain hope. Hope can lead to faith, and faith has the ability to change people—and ultimately change the world. This is the environment in which we want our daughter to be immersed, and these are the mentors that we want to guide her.”

TOURO COLLEGE OF DENTAL MEDICINE

Building the Future

There are many ways to support Touro College of Dental Medicine as we fashion the future of dental education and oral healthcare in the United States.

Annual Giving: Support academic programs, provide scholarships and underwrite day-to-day resources for students.

Governance: Join our Dental School Board of Advisors as an advisory and financial resource for the Dean on matters of policy, direction, practice and effectiveness, while stewarding our mission and acting as a global ambassador through volunteer leadership.

Corporate Opportunities: The Office of Institutional Advancement can create a program that fits the needs of your corporation, from volunteer opportunities to special events, highlighting your brand's commitment to dental education and community care.

Naming Opportunities: Make a lasting impact and have your name associated with the leading edge of oral healthcare. As a new school there are many naming opportunities available, including dedicating a dental chair in our state-of-the-art clinical practice, with a

prominent plaque in honor of, or in memory of a loved one, or even a current student. At whatever level of giving you are comfortable, you will play a role in making a difference for our students.

Fundraising Events: Support fundraising for community outreach, patient care and other vital school needs by becoming a sponsor for a particular event or by serving on our event committees, taking a leadership role in supporting the students.

Tribute Memorial and Planned Giving: Make a gift to honor an individual's dedication to the field of dental medicine. These gifts can play an important role in your overall estate planning. As we endeavor to create a Legacy Society, you will play a definitive role in building a great future for Touro College of Dental Medicine.

For more information please contact: Beth Gorin, Assistant Vice President, Institutional Advancement
646-565-6264 | Beth.Gorin@touro.edu | touro.edu/giving





Touro College of Dental Medicine

AT NEW YORK MEDICAL COLLEGE

Where Knowledge and Values Meet

19 Skyline Drive, Hawthorne, NY 10532



Touro College of Dental Medicine

Touro College of Dental Medicine (TCDM) is located in Westchester county on the campus of New York Medical College, which serves as the principal academic public health resource for the New York Hudson Valley and southwestern Connecticut. TCDM is dedicated to graduating outstanding dental professionals and conducting important clinical research, while providing vital dental health services to the public through its 81-chair dental education training facility. TCDM is the first new school of dentistry in New York State in almost 50 years and the first in the United States under Jewish auspices.

Touro College & University System

Touro is a system of non-profit institutions of higher and professional education. Touro College was chartered in 1970 primarily to enrich the Jewish heritage, and to serve the larger American and global community. Approximately 19,200 students are currently enrolled in its various schools and divisions. Touro College has 30 campuses and locations in New York, California, Nevada, Berlin, Jerusalem and Moscow. New York Medical College; Touro University California and Touro University Nevada; Touro University Worldwide and its Touro College Los Angeles division; as well as Hebrew Theological College in Skokie, Illinois, are separately accredited institutions within the Touro College and University System.