



SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY

UNIVERSITY *of* WASHINGTON

Department of Restorative Dentistry

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Monthly Restorative Review

Department Newsletter July 2025



Urgent Message

Dear UW Faculty & Grad Pros Alumni

We are saddened to say our beloved **Dr. Frank Spear** (UW Grad Pros Alumni and Affiliate Professor) is currently suffering from advanced liver disease. He is currently seeking a liver donor, blood type A+, to assist in his recovery. Please spread this urgent message to your friends and community as we help his family seek an appropriate donor.

If you do have a lead, please reach out to the Spear Education office at (866) 781 – 0072 or through their website here:

<https://www.speareducation.com/about/contact-us>

Alternatively, you may also direct message @speareducation on Instagram. They will connect you directly to the Spear family.

Our prayers are with Frank during his time of need. We send our love and prayers to Frank's family.

Dr. David Wands, Affiliate Professor



Dr. Frank Spear

Happy Birthday!



Dr. Andy Marashi

We wish you a happy birthday, and hope your day was wonderful!

Congratulations!

Farewell!

Grace Huang, DDS, PhD, Acting Assistant Professor graduated from Sichuan University with her BS, MS and DDS. She then completed a joint PhD program with Sichuan University and University of Amsterdam. She did a postdoctoral training at University of Florida for 3 years.



She completed a residency in Community Dentistry followed by a two-year AEGD program at Eastman Institute for Oral Health at University of Rochester. She joined our Department in February 2020 as a Clinical Instructor. During her time with us she was PI on an NIDCR K08 training grant entitled “Metal-titanates, novel anti-carries catalysts for modulating the virulence of cariogenic biofilms.” She was also Co-Investigator on an NIH R01 and the OKU Jon Suzuki Research Award. She was awarded a Faculty Award from the Class of 2022 and Dental Alumni Endowed Faculty Award in 2024 and 2025. Dr. Huang also taught one day a week in the D2/D3 clinics. She will join The Ohio State University College of Dentistry (Division of Restorative and Prosthetic Dentistry) as an Assistant Professor on tenure track. The Department bid farewell to Dr. Huang on July 28 with cake at during lunch. We wish her all the best.

Dr. Alvin Wee



Dr. Marty Anderson

New Appointment

Dr. Marty Anderson has been appointed as the Department of Restorative Dentistry Endowment Officer and will be included in the department's organizational chart. He has quietly and enthusiastically contributed to this role for the past several decades. Thank you, **Dr. Anderson.**

Dr. Alvin Wee

New Appointment

2025 Department Thread
Champions - #9

Dr. Pollene Speed

- Operative Dentistry

Dr. Ricardo Schwedhelm

- Prosthodontics

2025 Departmental Digital
Accessibility Champions

Dr. Ricardo Schwedhelm

Dr. Randy Maebo



Dr. Speed



Dr. Schwedhelm



Dr. Maebo

Visiting Scholar

Funda Bayindir, DDS, PhD, is currently a Professor and faculty member at the Faculty of Dentistry, Aratürk University in Erzurum, Turkey. Over the course of her academic career, she has held several key leadership roles, including Vice Dean, Department Chair, Chair in the Educational Committee, Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Current Research in Dental Sciences, and member of both the Faculty Board and the Ethics Committee.

She was appointed as a visiting researcher at the University of Washington as part of an international joint research project, supported by the Aratürk University Scientific Research Projects Coordination Unit for the month of July.

Dr. Bayindir has maintained a long-standing research collaboration with **Dr. Alvin Wee** since 2005, with whom she has conducted numerous scientific studies.

Visiting Scholar



Dr. Funda Bayindir

Events

Honors & Awards Ceremony

The School of Dentistry celebrated dental students selected for Honors and Awards. **Dr. Pollene Speed** led the Department of Restorative Dentistry in selecting awards for students this year. As a special recognition, classes nominated a number of our staff as members who have made significant contributions to their educational experience.

Class of 2027

Dr. Sangeetha
Nedunchezian

Dr. Randy Maebo

Class of 2026

Dr. Sangeetha
Nedunchezian

Class of 2025

Dr. Susanne Jeffrey
Dr. Sangeetha
Nedunchezian
Dr. Phillip Redd
Dr. Richard Tucker
Dr. John Yae



Graduates Ceremony

On June 7, at the Meany Hall Auditorium, our faculty and community celebrated the students receiving their doctoral degree with an Investiture of Doctoral Hoods ceremony. The students elected several of our faculty to participate in the ceremony.

Commencement Address Speaker:

Dr. Kerry Strieff

Hooders:

Dr. Susanne Jeffrey
Dr. Yen-Wei Chan

Readers:

Dr. Angela Chianglin
Dr. Sangeetha Nedunchezian

Marshals:

Dr. James Newman Jr.
Dr. Kwok-Hung (Albert) Chung



Events

Graduate Prosthodontics Ceremony

Our faculty and community also celebrated our Graduate Prosthodontics students on June 7 at the UW Waterfront Activities Center. **Dr. Van Ramos Jr., Dr. Alan Sutton,** and **Dr. Alvin Wee** participated in the event as speakers and presenters. A special thanks to the Kois Center, **Dr. Warren Libman, Dr. Jeffrey Libman,** and **Drs. Alex and Kavita Shor** for their donations to the event!

And finally, congratulations to our three graduates: **Dr. Esther Yi Ting Chen, Dr. Ludovic de Carle,** and **Dr. Mevadee Pibulniyom!**

Dr. Van Ramos



Department Social

The department held a social event at the Agua Verde Café on July 31. Thank you to all the faculty that attended. Also, thanks for all the graduate prosthodontic residents that eventually showed but did not make the picture! PS: We also celebrated **Dr. Marashi's** unannounced birthday.

Dr. Susanne Jeffery



Events

International Academy for Adhesive Dentistry

The Department was honored to host the 6th Biennial Meeting of the International Academy for Adhesive Dentistry (IAAD) on July 11-12 at the Washington Athletic Club in Seattle.

The meeting commenced with remarks by our own **Dean Dr. Andre Ritter** and IAAD President **Dr. Alireza Sadr**. Under **Dr. Sadr's** leadership, this event brought together over 100 clinicians, researchers, educators, and students from across North America and 16 other countries to exchange the latest advancements in science and clinical practice in restorative dentistry.

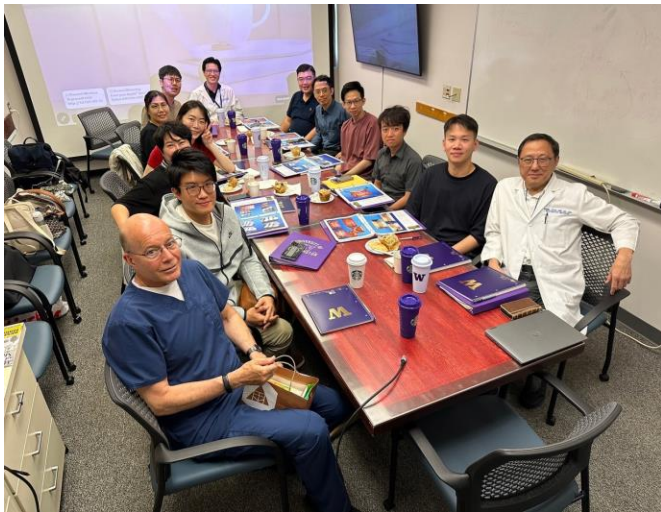
Over the two days, 18 lectures were featured from leading global experts. Presentations from our very own include:

- **Prof. John Sorensen**: Shared contemporary advances in CAD/CAM and digital workflows for adhesive ceramic restoration and was nominated as honorary membership of the academy
- **Drs. Sami Dogan and Yen-Wei Chen** were other core members of the department delivering lectures at this event. Affiliate faculty Drs. Jae Son Kim, Grant Chyz and Ken Hooi were among the speakers to this event.

Several UW members received research awards for their poster presentations: Megha Rao (B4T lab, c/o 2026), Juman Al-Haddad (B4T lab, c/o 2025), Hira Khalid (c/o 2022), Nafiseh Najmafshar (B4T lab). Dr. Ali Sadr



Events



UW/Dentway Symposium

Thanks to the valuable contribution of our faculty members who participated in the UW/Dentway Symposium Collaboration Annual Course on July 10. **Dr. Yen-Wei Chen** led as the course director with **Drs. Schwedhelm, Chan, Chung, and Peng** sharing presentations. Other faculty members from the Periodontics and Orthodontics Departments also contributed.



All the lectures shared were informative and well-received by the attendees. We appreciate everyone's hard work!
Dr. Yen-Wei Chen



AAL CAAMP 2025

Dr. Alvin Wee recently attended Chairs & Academic Administrators Management Program (CAAMP) on July 28 to 30 in Atlanta, GA. This 3-day multi-disciplinary workshop features lecture and interactive discussion to provide guidance and the skills necessary to lead and manage academic departments more effectively.



Presentations

Dentway Dental Education, Taipei

Dr. Yen-Wei Chen shared a presentation in Taipei, Taiwan at the Dentway Dental Education program on June 15-16. His presentation is titled "An interdisciplinary approach for comprehensive treatment planning".



Dr. Chen presenting



Dr. Susanne Kolare Jeffrey was an invited speaker at the 8th Annual Congress on Oral and Dental Medicine in Stockholm, Sweden, held on June 18-20. She gave a talk entitled, "Caring beyond the restorative margin – It's all in the Spit" and was the co-chair of two scientific sessions: "Breaking Research and Emerging Technologies" and "Advanced Oral and Dental Surgery and Treatment".



Dr. Jeffery is 2nd from the left

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