HSDM PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARS
Advancing Research, Teaching, and Oral Health

Eight HSDM advanced graduate education students have been awarded Harvard Presidential Scholarships for the 2019-20 academic year. The full-tuition scholarship is awarded to DMSc students who have committed themselves to careers in public service or academia. This year’s accomplished recipients’ academic interests range from pursuing clinical and basic science research, to teaching and mentoring students, to furthering oral health policy and information systems. They “pay back” the scholarship by working in public service or academia full-time for as many years as they received the scholarship.

**Dr. Chiho Ahn**, a DMSc candidate in the Periodontology program, is working in the Baron/Gori Lab investigating the role of Sfrp4, a Wnt signaling inhibitor in bone repair and regeneration.

**Dr. Yu-Chun Lin**, a DMSc candidate in the Prosthodontics program, is working in the Bidlack-Pugach Lab at the Forsyth Institute investigating enamel development at different stages in developing mice ameloblast.

**Dr. Wonwoo Jang**, a DMSc candidate in the Periodontics program, is working in the Nagai Lab investigating the establishment of biomimetic soft tissue integration to zirconium surface coated with platelet-activating peptide.

**Dr. Jevae L. Nelson**, a DMSc candidate in the Dental Public Health program, is focused on using national data to deepen her understanding of fluoride and its impact on population health.

**Dr. Diana Wang**, a DMSc candidate in the Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology program, is working in the Murphy/Lian Lab at BWH exploring early re-epithelialization and TET-mediated 5-hydroxymethylcytosine epigenetic regulation in oral mucosal wound healing.

**Dr. Bunmi Tokede**, a DMSc candidate in the Orthodontics program, is conducting a clinical trial on the first fully-customized and 3D-printed orthodontic bracket system.

**Dr. Frances Yang**, a candidate in the Periodontology program, is focused on synthesizing biodegradable nanoparticles for drug delivery to treat bacterial infections.

**Dr. Anna Yi**, a DMSc candidate in the Prosthodontics program, is working in MIT’s Han Lab and with Drs. Sang Lee and Jennifer Gibbs to investigate novel technologies and products involving electrokinetic flow and bone cement.

Celebrating Dean Donoff, a dedicated advocate for scientific research
RESEARCH AWARDS

Xiaohui Wang, PhD, a postdoctoral fellow in the Department of Developmental Biology and member of the Yang Lab, has been selected by the American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases (AASLD) Foundation as an Early Career Investigator Award recipient in basic science for his project, “Mst1 Critically Mediates the Effects of Alcohol-Caused End Organ Damage.” He received this award at the AASLD annual meeting in Boston this past November.

Jennifer Gibbs, PhD, DDS, assistant professor of Restorative Dentistry and Biomaterials Sciences and director of the Division of Endodontics at HSDM, was honored with an Eleanor and Miles Shore Fellowship. More specifically, Gibbs received the HSDM Fellowship in honor of Aina M. Auskaps, DMD. Dr. Gibbs is being recognized for a project titled, “Risk Factors for Severe or Prolonged Pain After Dental Surgery.” The Shore Fellowship offers junior faculty at HSDM and HMS financial support during a critical time in their academic careers. Congratulations to Jennifer Gibbs on this outstanding accomplishment.

Aida Shadrav, DMD candidate class of 2021, was selected to present her research at the Hinman Research Symposium this past November. She presented her project, “7/12 Patient Touch Point Strategy: A Novel Method to Increase Patient Attendance and Recommendation.” This work was recently published in BDJ Open journal under the mentorship of Dr. Elsbeth Kalendarian, professor at UCSF School of Dentistry.

PUBLICATIONS

DEVELOPMENTAL BIOLOGY


ORAL MEDICINE, INFECTION AND IMMUNITY


Collins A, Murugkar P, Dewhirst F. Complete genome sequence of strain AC001, a novel cultured member of the human oral microbiome from the candidate phylum Saccharibacteria (TM7). Microbiology Resource Announcements 2019;17:8(42).


Murugkar P, Collins A, Dewhirst F. Complete genome sequence of strain PM004, a novel cultured member of the human oral microbiome from the candidate phylum Saccharibacteria (TM7). *Microbiology Resource Announcements* 2019;8(42).


**RESTORATIVE DENTISTRY AND BIOMATERIALS SCIENCES**


**ORAL AND MAXILLOFACIAL SURGERY**


**ORAL HEALTH POLICY AND EPIDEMIOLOGY**


**MULTI-DEPARTMENTAL**


Save the Dates for the HSDM Science Speaker Series

11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
HSDM REB Auditorium

- January 16, 2020  Dr. Eileen Shore (Penn)
- February 13, 2020  Dr. Henry Kronenberg (Harvard)
- March 12, 2020  Dr. Matthew Greenblatt (Cornell)
- April 16, 2020  Dr. Tamara Alliston (UCSF)
- May 14, 2020  Dr. Catherine McCusker (UMass)

Michelle Bass, PhD, is the newly-appointed liaison for HSDM at the Francis A. Countway Library of Medicine. She is the first point of contact for questions regarding instruction, research, and resources.

The Research and Instruction team is using a liaison model to guide work with the three professional schools on the Longwood campus. Team liaisons work in collaboration with departments and offices. For example, Michelle recently worked with the Office of Research and the Office of Dental Education to craft a HSDM Library course within Canvas for more seamless access between student learning and library resources. This winter, Michelle will be working on updating the Library’s dental medicine research guide highlighting recently acquired additions to the Library’s oral health collection. The best way to get in contact with Michelle is to use the Ask Countway form, or email her directly.

Michelle B. Bass, PhD, MSI, AHIP
Manager of Research & Instruction
Countway Library of Medicine, Office 245
michelle_bass@hms.harvard.edu
617-432-9183

A Publication of the Office of Research

Malcolm Whitman, PhD
Associate Dean for Basic Science

Yingzi Yang, PhD
Associate Dean for Translational Research

Dawn M. DeCosta
Editor and Layout

Heather M. Denny
Editing

Lia Sgourakes
Editing

Ashley Simmons
Editing

Countway Liaison

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New Researchers

Jiaming Zhang, MD, PhD
Jiaming Zhang joined the Baron-Gori Laboratory for two years as a visiting research fellow in the Department of Oral Medicine, Infection and Immunity. Zhang is an orthopedic surgeon with MD, PhD degrees from Tongji Medical College, Huazhong University of Science and Technology, China. Before coming to HSDM, he was a visiting scholar at the Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center, Department of Biochemistry and Biophysics, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. In the Baron-Gori Lab, Zhang will be working on the role of matrix degradation in osteocytic osteolysis and its influence on osteocyte regulation of skeletal homeostasis.

Han Xu, PhD
Han Xu joined the Naveh Laboratory as a research fellow in the Department of Oral Medicine, Infection and Immunity. Originally from Nanjing, China, Xu moved to United States in 2010 to attend Case Western Reserve University, where she received her bachelor’s degree in biomedical engineering with a minor in polymer science and engineering. Xu attended Boston University and earned her PhD degree in biomedical engineering on tensional homeostasis of vascular cells. In the Naveh Lab, Xu will be working on extracellular matrix cross linking in the periodontal ligament.