Hawazin Elani Receives K99 Award from NIH–NIMHD

Hawazin Elani, BDS, MSc, PhD, MMSc, instructor in Restorative Dentistry and Biomaterials Sciences, received a K99 Award from NIH-National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities entitled, “Health Reform and Oral Health Disparities: A Mixed Methods Evaluation.”

For this K99 Award, Elani will investigate cost-related barriers to dental care which are a major contributor to oral health inequalities. She will examine the impact of the Affordable Care Act coverage expansion on access to and utilization of dental services in the United States. Findings from this project will provide evidence to assess national progress towards reducing disparities in oral health and inform future policy development to improve access to dental care and reduce inequalities in oral health.

Elani is a prosthodontist and researcher whose work spans several areas of HSDM including global and community health, clinical dentistry, and epidemiology. Elani was recently named co-course director for the Fundamentals of Research course with Dr. Gili Naveh. Elani’s recent work, “Trends in Dental Implant Use in the U.S., 1999-2016, and Projections to 2026” was just published in the Journal of Dental Research. She is also involved in several projects with the Office of Global and Community Health that focus on oral health disparities and access to dental care.

Elani graduated with a BDS from the Faculty of Dentistry at King Abdulaziz University in her native Saudi Arabia. After graduation, she attended McGill University in Québec, Canada for her MSc and her PhD. She then completed her specialty training at HSDM in Prosthodontics in 2015 and received her MMSc degree.

HSDM Appoints Yingzi Yang and Malcolm Whitman as Associate Deans for Research

Yingzi Yang, PhD, professor of Developmental Biology has been named associate dean for translational research. Malcolm Whitman, PhD, professor of Developmental Biology has been named associate dean for basic science.

In these new roles, they will share the responsibility of leading HSDM’s research efforts – promoting, overseeing, and reviewing all research activities at the School. Drs. Yang and Whitman are responsible for the planning and oversight of all training-related research activities at HSDM, including research by DMD, MMSc, DMSc and PhD students and postdoctoral fellows. They will also lead the Faculty Research Committee’s charge to help stimulate, plan, and oversee all research by HSDM faculty and inter-institutional collaborations.
Visiting Graduate Students

**Erman Chen, BS, MS**
Erman Chen joined the Baron Lab as a visiting graduate student and will spend nine months focusing on the role of Wnt signaling in osteocytes in bone homeostasis and osteoporosis. Erman Chen is a second year PhD student in the School of Medicine at Zhejiang University, China.

**Ruiying Chen, BS**
Ruiying Chen joined the Baron Lab as a visiting graduate student and will spend two years focusing on the role of R-spondins and Wnt signaling in skeletal homeostasis. Chen is currently pursuing an MD degree from the School of Stomatology, Wuhan University, China.

**Shuhao Feng, MD**
Shuhao Feng joined the department of developmental biology as a visiting graduate student in the Yang Lab. Feng is from Guangzhou City, China and received his MD degree in clinical medicine from Southern Medical University, also in Guangzhou City, China. In the Yang Lab, Feng will be working on early embryonic cartilage and bone development.

**Vitor de Toledo Stuani, DDS, MS**
Vitor de Toledo Stuani joined the department of oral medicine, infection and immunity as a visiting graduate student with a one-year osteology research fellowship. Stuani will focus on 3D printing technology in periodontics and implant dentistry with Drs. David Kim and Masazumi Nagai. He is completing a PhD degree at the Bauru School of Dentistry, University of Sao Paolo, Brazil.

Oral Oncology Fellow at HSDM

**Paolo Fantozzi, DDS**
Paolo Fantozzi, an attending dentist at Sapienza University of Rome, School of Dentistry, is the first Oral Oncology Fellow of the HSDM/BWH Division of Oral Medicine. Fantozzi will experience in-depth training to better manage cancer patients in a community setting. His clinical training will be at Brigham and Women’s Hospital and Dana Farber Cancer Institute with additional rotations at other Harvard teaching hospitals. Dr. Alessandro Villa, director of Advanced Graduate Oral Medicine and director of the Oral Oncology Fellowship at HSDM, will oversee Fantozzi’s training.

Basic and Clinical Science Research Seminars

11am–12pm
REB Auditorium

**December 5, 2018**
**Ivo Kalajzic, MD, PhD**
Professor of Reconstructive Sciences, Center for Regenerative Medicine and Skeletal Development, University of Connecticut School of Dental Medicine

**January 9, 2019**
**Yang Chai, DDS, PhD**
Professor of Craniofacial Molecular Biology; Director of the Center for Craniofacial Molecular Biology; Associate Dean of Research; University of Southern California Ostrow School of Dentistry

Additional information will be posted closer to the date. Please contact the HSDM Office of Research with any questions (617) 432-1121.
Vicki Rosen Receives The William F. Neuman Award from The American Society for Bone and Mineral Research (ASBMR)

Vicki Rosen, PhD, professor and chair of Developmental Biology, received the William F. Neuman Award, the most prestigious award given by the American Society for Bone and Mineral Research. The award recognizes major scientific contributions in the area of bone and mineral research and for contributions to associates and trainees in teaching, research, and administration.

Rosen arrived at HSDM by way of industry, having spent the early part of her career as a scientist at Genetics Institute, a biotechnology company, where she was a member of the research team that identified the bone morphogenetic protein (BMP) genes in 1988. She became a professor in the Faculty of Medicine in 2001, and chair of the Department of Developmental Biology at HSDM in 2005. The Rosen Lab studies the physiological roles that bone morphogenetic proteins (BMPs) play in the development, maintenance, and repair of musculoskeletal tissues (bone, cartilage, tendon, ligament, meniscus, muscle) with the goal of developing novel strategies for their repair and regeneration.

Adam Hamilton Receives Funding from the ITI Foundation for the Promotion of Oral Implantology

Adam Hamilton, BDS, lecturer on Restorative Dentistry and Biomaterials Sciences and Advanced Graduate Education Program Director of Implant Dentistry, received funding from the ITI Foundation for the Promotion of Oral Implantology for a project entitled, “The Accuracy of Intraoral Scanning and Photogrammetry on the Clinical Fit of Long-Span Frameworks.”

For this study, Hamilton will investigate and compare conventional impressions, digital intra-oral (IOS) scanning and intra-oral digital photogrammetry (IOP) on the accuracy of fit of implant-fixed partial denture prosthesis (IFPDP) and implant-fixed complete denture prosthesis (IFCDP) frameworks on partially edentulous and fully edentulous patients. He will also compare the three-dimensional (3D) precision of IOS and IOP impressions, as well as the accuracy of the digital workflow regarding framework fabrication and 3D printing and milling of casts.

Hamilton graduated from the University of Western Australia with a Bachelor of Dental Science and has a Doctorate in Clinical Dentistry in the specialty of prosthodontics from the University of Melbourne, Australia.
Brittany Seymour Receives Funding from the David Rockefeller Center Foundation for Latin American Studies at Harvard University

Brittany Seymour, DMD, MPH, assistant professor of Oral Health Policy and Epidemiology, received funding from the David Rockefeller Center Foundation for Latin American Studies at Harvard University for a project entitled, “Strengthening a Collaborative Research Strategy through Lessons Learned in Public Health, Nutrition and Oral Health Programs in Mexico and the United States.”

Seymour will convene inter-disciplinary public health experts from Mexico and the United States to jointly combat the increasing prevalence of non-communicable diseases (including obesity, diabetes and tooth decay) arising from increased consumption of sugary snacks and beverages in both countries. By strengthening collaborations, Seymour will bring Mexican expertise to the US to inform public health and nutrition advocacy efforts, and bring US expertise in social media and research methodology to Mexico to help address these major non-communicable diseases.

Seymour recently returned from a trip to Vietnam, Indonesia and Malaysia where she presented her work on the evolving role of the dentist in a globalizing world – implications for education.

Jie Sun Receives Award from the Greater New York Academy of Prosthodontics

Jie Sun, DMD, advanced graduate education resident in prosthodontics, received an award from the Greater New York Academy of Prosthodontics entitled, “The Effect of Occlusal Vertical Dimension Increase in Lower Facial Height and Perceived Facial Esthetics.” Sun’s research mentor is Dr. Sang Lee, assistant professor of Restorative Dentistry and Biomaterials Sciences, and director of Advanced Graduate Prosthodontics at HSDM. For this project, Sun will investigate the occlusal vertical dimension increase on lower facial height and perceived facial esthetics. She will explore to what extent an increase in OVD becomes detectable to human eyes and how such detectability varies among prosthodontist, general dentist and layperson.

Mohammad Helmi will receive the Community Dental Health Award

Dr. Mohammad Helmi will be presented with the Anthony Westwater Jong Memorial Community Dental Health Post-Professional Award sponsored by DENTSPLY Sirona and established by the Oral Health Section of the American Public Health Association. Helmi’s project, “Community Water Fluoridation Online: An Analysis of the Digital Media Ecosystem” was completed under the mentorship of Dr. Brittany Seymour, assistant professor of Oral Health Policy and Epidemiology. Helmi is an HSDM DMSc 2018 graduate with a Certificate in Dental Public Health.
HSDM Publications

DEVELOPMENTAL BIOLOGY


ORAL MEDICINE, INFECTION AND IMMUNITY


ORAL AND MAXILLOFACIAL SURGERY


ORAL HEALTH POLICY AND EPIDEMIOLOGY


RESTORATIVE DENTISTRY AND BIOMATERIALS SCIENCES


MULTI-DEPARTMENTAL

Shigemi Nagai Receives the E. B. Clark Award from the Society for Color and Appearance in Dentistry

Shigemi Nagai, DDS, PhD, associate professor of Restorative Dentistry and Biomaterials Sciences, received the E. B. Clark Award which is the highest recognition from The Society for Color and Appearance in Dentistry.

The Nagai Lab conducts both clinical and in vitro research in various fields of dentistry. Nagai was deeply involved in the development of a dental spectrophotometer for precise color measurement of hard and soft tissue. With this device, Naga conducted and published a clinical research study with Colombia University on the clinical efficacy of a colored implant system on the soft tissue esthetic and bone stability. Color science research has moved into NIR fluorescence imaging, which can be used for both early dental caries detection and caries inhibition. Currently, Nagai is focusing on projects with Drs. David Kim and John Da Silva including: 1) The development of a new TiO2 surface with perpendicular protrusion of type I collagen; 2) The analysis of the efficacy of exosomal NEP secreted from the muscle on prevention of accumulation of β-amyloid peptide (Aβ); and, 3) Dental policy reform of universal health care coverage in Japan using a national database.

Elizabeth Perry, DMD/PhD Student, Receives NIH Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award Fellowship

Elizabeth Perry received The Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award (NRSA) Fellowship which is for students at institutions with NIH-funded institutional predoctoral dual-degree training programs. Perry is currently in the third year of the Biological Sciences in Dental Medicine PhD as a part of the combined DMD/PhD program at HSDM. She is working with mentor, Pere Puigserver, PhD, professor of Cell Biology at Harvard Medical School and Department of Cancer Biology at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. Perry is studying “Chemical Approaches to Rescue Human Mitochondrial Disease Mutations” for her thesis project. The proposed work will lay the groundwork for a novel therapeutic strategy to benefit Mitochondrial Disease patients.

A publication of the Office of Research

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