

ADEA Leadership Institute Class of 2027 Fellows Biographies

Qoot Alkhubaizi, B.Sc., B.Ch.D., MFD RCS (Ireland), M.S.

Dr. Alkhubaizi is a Clinical Associate Professor and Assistant Dean of Clinical Affairs at the University of Maryland School of Dentistry (UMSOD), where she also serves as Director of Global Partnerships and Educational Initiatives in Rwanda. She earned her Bachelor of Dental Surgery from the University of Leeds in the United Kingdom in 2004, followed by a diploma from the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland in 2006. She completed a 24-month Advanced Education in General Dentistry (AEGD) program at UMSOD in 2010 and earned a Master of Science in Clinical Research in 2012.



Dr. Alkhubaizi is a Diplomate of the American Board of General Dentistry and an associate member of the University of Maryland Graduate School. Her leadership roles include Faculty Senator and Vice President of the University of Maryland, Baltimore, Faculty Senate. Since 2020, she has served as a Site Visitor for the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) for AEGD programs.

She provides clinical and didactic instruction and maintains an active practice through the Faculty Practice. Her research interests include dental epidemiology, dental materials and risk management and innovations in dental education. Dr. Alkhubaizi is committed to advancing dental education, clinical excellence and global health.

Giovana Anovazzi, D.D.S., M.Sc., Ph.D.

Dr. Anovazzi is a Clinical Assistant Professor at the University of Michigan School of Dentistry where she teaches both clinical and didactic courses for dental students and pediatric dentistry residents. She also serves as Clinical Director for Pediatric Dentistry, overseeing clinic operations, patient care and pediatric curriculum development.

She earned her D.D.S., M.Sc. and Ph.D. from Sao Paulo State University in Brazil. She is dual trained, holding certificates in Periodontics (2011) and Pediatric Dentistry (2015). She completed her post-doc fellowship in Pediatric Dentistry in 2019. Throughout her career, she has balanced clinical practice and research, striving to provide high-quality education and patient care.



Her research focuses on genetic susceptibility, clinical outcomes and the biocompatibility of dental materials. She has authored numerous peer-reviewed publications and mentored students whose research has been published in international journals.

Dr. Anovazzi has received awards recognizing excellence in teaching, mentorship and research, including the Lloyd H. "Bud" Straffon Award (2022–2024) and honors from the International Association for Dental Research (IADR) and other professional organizations. She currently serves as Councilor for the Pediatric Oral Health Research Group of IADR and remains committed to advancing dental education, research and clinical care.

Sobia Bilal, B.D.S., M.Sc., Ph.D.

Dr. Bilal is an Associate Professor in the Department of Population Oral Health and Director of Interprofessional Education and Collaborative Practice at University of Illinois Chicago College of Dentistry (UIC COD). She holds a bachelor's degree in Dentistry, a master's degree in Dental Public Health from the University of London and a Ph.D. from the University of Malaya, Malaysia. Additionally, she was awarded Fellowship in Tobacco Control by the World Health Organization – Western Pacific Region, Hong Kong.

With her academic and research experience, her vision for interprofessional education at UIC COD is to cultivate a culture of mutual respect, teamwork and integrated care among health care professionals. By promoting interdisciplinary collaboration, complex health issues can be addressed more effectively, ensuring comprehensive patient care and advancing public health initiatives. She has enhanced chairside prevention curriculum to improve patient outcomes. Her research paradigms include quantitative, qualitative and mixed methods. Her areas of research focus are health promotion and disease prevention, tobacco control, medical education and health-related quality of life. In addition to scientific evidence, her contributions include development and implementation of various health promotion programs and facilitation of various scholarly training programs.



Supattriya Chutinan, D.D.S.

Dr. Chutinan is an Assistant Professor at Harvard School of Dental Medicine (HSDM), where she plays a central role in the predoctoral curriculum and currently serves as a Course Director.

She earned her Doctor of Dental Surgery degree from Mahidol University School of Dentistry, Thailand, and received her Master of Science in Dentistry from her Operative Dentistry Residency Program at Indiana University School of Dentistry. She is also a Diplomate of the American Board of Operative Dentistry.

Dr. Chutinan completed the Academy Medical Education Fellowship, a yearlong program designed to enhance teaching effectiveness, promote educational scholarship and develop curricular leadership. Her leadership experience includes serving as Secretary, Chair-elect and Chair of the ADEA Section in Operative Dentistry and Biomaterials. She currently serves as its Councilor. Additionally, she is a member of the Executive Committee of the American Board of Operative Dentistry and serves on the editorial board of the *Journal of Operative Dentistry*.



She is actively involved in several professional organizations, including ADEA, the American Dental Association, the Academy of Operative Dentistry and the American Association for Women Dentists. Dr. Chutinan has received multiple teaching awards voted from both students and faculty, including five HSDM Outstanding Teaching Awards, the Young Mentor Award, the Distinguished Junior Faculty Award and the Alpha Omega Distinguished Faculty Award.

Dr. Chutinan's research interests include dental education, operative dentistry, cariology and dental materials. Her work has been presented at local, national and international conferences and published in peer-reviewed journals.

Asha Eapen, M.Sc., Ph.D.

Dr. Eapen earned her B.Sc. and M.Sc. in Biotechnology in India and her Ph.D. in Anatomy and Cell Biology from the University of Illinois Chicago. She currently serves as a Clinical Associate Professor and the Coordinator of Anatomical Sciences in the Department of Oral Medicine and Diagnostic Sciences at the University of Illinois Chicago College of Dentistry (UIC COD). In this role, she directs the Biomedical and Clinical Sciences curriculum, oversees anatomy laboratory instruction, mentors honors and dental students and coordinates faculty development and curricular integration to ensure compliance with Commission on Dental Accreditation standards.



With more than two decades of academic experience, Dr. Eapen has previously served as faculty at Southern Illinois University School of Dental Medicine and as a postdoctoral fellow at UIC. Her scholarly work centers on advancing dental education through the use of metacognitive strategies to empower learners, innovative approaches to anatomy instruction and evidence-based mentorship.

Dr. Eapen is an active member of ADEA, the American Association for Anatomy and the American Association for Dental Research. She has held leadership roles within ADEA, including Chair of the Integrated Clinical and Applied Biomedical Sciences Section. Her dedication to teaching excellence has been recognized with the Jon Daniel Teaching Award, the UIC Teaching Recognition Program Award and multiple Golden Apple Teaching Awards.

Salma Elwazeer, B.D.S., M.D.S., M.P.H., FRSPH, FICD, FACD

Dr. Elwazeer is an Assistant Professor and Director of Public Health Education and Interprofessional Education (IPE) at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center El Paso Woody L. Hunt School of Dental Medicine (Hunt School of Dental Medicine) with a secondary Faculty appointment at the Foster School of Medicine.

She earned her dental degree from Ain-Shams University in Cairo, Egypt. Dr. Elwazeer completed a Pediatric Dentistry residency and master's degree and earned her M.P.H. at Purdue University. She completed a Dental Public Health residency at UT Health San Antonio School of Dentistry. At the Hunt School of Dental Medicine, Dr. Elwazeer directs the



Community Health Certificate Curriculum—a required, four-year program that integrates public health, IPE and the Spanish-language into dental education.

Her scholarly record includes over 50 peer-reviewed publications, presentations, seminars and workshops. Her efforts have been recognized at the institutional, state and national levels with various awards, including the Chancellor’s Council Distinguished Teaching Award—the highest faculty honor in the Texas Tech University System, and the American Dental Association Foundation’s Dr. David Whiston Leadership Award. Dr. Elwazeer also holds leadership roles at ADEA, the American Association of Public Health Dentistry and the American Public Health Association. She is a Diplomate of the American Board of Dental Public Health and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Public Health, the International College of Dentists and the American College of Dentists.

Ana Paula Piovezan Fugolin, D.D.S., M.S., Ph.D.

Dr. Fugolin is a dentist-scientist specializing in designing, synthesizing and characterizing self-healing biomaterials and stimuli-responsive platforms for the targeted, on-demand delivery of therapeutic agents in oral inflammatory diseases.

She earned her Doctor of Dental Surgery degree from Piracicaba Dental School at UNICAMP in Brazil, where she also completed her M.S. and Ph.D. in Dental Materials. During her Ph.D., she completed a research internship at Oregon Health & Science University (OHSU) and later returned to OHSU for postdoctoral training in biomaterials and biomechanics.



Dr. Fugolin has published over 55 peer-reviewed articles and authored multiple book chapters. She holds several patents in biomaterials and drug delivery systems. She has received prestigious awards, including the K99/R00 NIDCR Dual Degree Dentist Scientist Pathway to Independence Award and the R01 NIH Stephen I. Katz Early Stage Investigator Award. In 2024, she received the Discovery in Science Award, recognizing both her groundbreaking research and her dedication to inspiring future generations of women and gender-diverse individuals in science. Her work combines cutting-edge scientific innovation with mentorship and leadership, advancing dental biomaterials while fostering the next generation of scientific leaders.

Yiping W. Han, Ph.D.

Dr. Han is Professor of Microbial Sciences in the Section of Oral & Diagnostic Sciences at the Columbia University College of Dental Medicine (Columbia CDM); Professor in the Department of Microbiology & Immunology and Department of Medicine at the Columbia University College of Medical Sciences; and Professor of Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Vagelos College of Physicians & Surgeons, at Columbia University. She is also a member of the Herbert Irving Comprehensive Cancer Center, the Digestive and Liver Diseases Research Center and Institute of Human Nutrition at Columbia.



Dr. Han received her B.S. in Biochemistry from Nanjing University in China, M.S. and Ph.D. in Microbiology from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and postdoctoral training at University of California, Los Angeles. Dr. Han is a world-renowned expert in host-pathogen interactions and translational studies. She is a pioneer in elucidating the role of oral microbiota in systemic complications such as pregnancy complications and cancer and coined the term “mobile microbiome.” Her laboratory has demonstrated how oral bacteria translocate to extra-oral sites, causing adverse pregnancy outcomes and stimulating gastrointestinal cancer, and identified novel host and microbial targets for diagnosis and therapeutic treatments.

Dr. Han is an inventor of multiple issued patents. She was elected to American Academy of Microbiology in 2022 and currently serves as President of the Anaerobe Society of the Americas, President of Columbia University Asian Faculty Association and President-elect of Sino-Micro Group. Dr. Han has lectured broadly, served on the editorial board of *mLife* and *Scientific Reports* among others and is currently an editor of *mBio*.

James L. Harrison, D.M.D.

Dr. Harrison is an Associate Professor in the Department of Comprehensive Dentistry at the University of Louisville School of Dentistry. He currently serves as a Group Manager in the comprehensive care clinic, where he co-manages 40 dental students and oversees their clinical education.

Dr. Harrison earned his D.M.D. from the University of Louisville in 2004 and completed an Advanced Education in General Dentistry residency at the University of Cincinnati Hospital. After a decade in private practice, he returned to academia in 2015. He leads the Practice Management curriculum, incorporating dental simulation to teach students how business decisions impact clinical outcomes.



He serves as Faculty Advisor for the local American Student Dental Association and ADEA student chapters. His recent accomplishments include co-authoring online financial planning modules, publishing research on dental students’ career plans and serving as lead editor of *Business Basics for Dentists*.

Dr. Harrison has held leadership roles within ADEA, including Chair of the Section on Practice Management and Chair of the Council of Sections. He has received multiple teaching awards and is recognized for his contributions to dental education and student development.

Shirin Khoynezhad, D.D.S., D.M.Sc., FICD

Dr. Khoynezhad is a prosthodontist and academic leader with over 15 years of experience in dentistry, education and clinical care. She holds a Doctor of Dental Surgery degree, as well as a Doctor of Medical Sciences in Prosthodontics from Harvard School of Dental Medicine (HSDM).

Currently, Dr. Khoynezhad serves as the Director of the Internationally Trained Dentist Program (IDEP) and Associate Professor in the Department of Prosthodontics at Louisiana State University Health New Orleans School of Dentistry. Her responsibilities include overseeing the IDEP program, teaching both undergraduate and postgraduate dental students, serving as Course Director for several core courses, mentoring students and conducting research in prosthodontics and dental education. She also holds a part-time Adjunct Faculty appointment at HSDM.

Following her doctoral training, she joined the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Dentistry as a full-time faculty member and served as Director of Pre-Clinical Dentistry in the Department of Restorative Sciences. Her comprehensive academic background spans curriculum development, faculty leadership and directorship in dental education programs.

She has received national recognition for her contributions to dental education. In 2018, she was selected for the ADEA Emerging Academic Leaders Program. In 2022, she was elected as an officer in ADEA's Special Interest Group for Internationally Educated Oral Health Professionals, reflecting her deep commitment to supporting international dentists.

Dr. Khoynezhad was also appointed to the Integrated National Board Dental Examination Standard Setting Committee—an influential role held by only 10 dentists nationwide— influencing the future of dental licensure in the United States.

In recognition of her outstanding professional achievements and leadership, Dr. Khoynezhad was recently selected as a Fellow of the International College of Dentists (USA Section)—an elite honor extended to fewer than 3% of U.S. dentists. Additionally, she was recently chosen to participate in the Louisiana State University Leadership Program, further advancing her administrative and institutional leadership capabilities.



Gabriela F. Lagreca, D.D.S., D.M.D., E.M.B.A.

Dr. Lagreca is Associate Professor and Director of Faculty Development at Tufts University School of Dental Medicine (TUSDM). She oversees comprehensive faculty development initiatives, designing and delivering professional development programs across clinical techniques, educational pedagogy and technology integration. She manages faculty onboarding and calibration programs, mentors faculty and students on research projects and represents TUSDM at national ADEA meetings while collaborating with university-wide teaching enhancement initiatives.

Her dental education experience spans over a decade, progressing from Instructor to Associate Professor while maintaining extensive clinical



teaching responsibilities in predoctoral and postdoctoral Prosthodontics programs. She has directed multiple specialty courses and served as Director of the ADEA Academic Dental Career Fellowship Program at TUSDM since 2018, guiding 25 fellows through completion.

Dr. Lagreca's recent leadership roles include Immediate Past President-elect of the American College of Prosthodontics, Massachusetts Section, and Chair of ADEA's Teaching and Learning with Technology Special Interest Group. She is a Fellow of the International College of Dentists (2022) and received the American Dental Association's Institute for Diversity in Leadership Fellowship (2022). Her innovative programs include co-directing the internationally recognized Dental Education Learning and Teaching Academy Mini-Residency program, which has trained 36 participants from seven countries, and founding The International Dentist Bootcamp—a multi-institutional collaboration supporting internationally trained dentists. Her scholarship includes peer-reviewed publications in the *ADEA Journal of Dental Education*, focusing on educational innovation and diversity initiatives.

Melody McGee, M.B.A.

Ms. McGee is Assistant Professor at Pacific University School of Dental Hygiene Studies. Her current responsibilities include Course Director for Dental Science, Periodontology, Pain Management and Dental Specialties, as well as Clinical Instructor in both first-year and second-year dental hygiene clinics and student advisor for 11 dental hygiene students.

Prior to joining Pacific University as full-time faculty in 2022, Ms. McGee was an Adjunct Clinical Instructor (2018–2022) and worked as a full-time Clinical Instructor in a medical/dental managed care organization (2013–2022).



Her current leadership roles include ADEA Section on Dental Hygiene Education Chair-elect, Commission on Dental Accreditation Allied Site Visitor and American Dental Hygienists' Association Professional Fellow. She has been published in peer-reviewed journals and other publications such as the *Journal of Public Health Dentistry* and *RDH Magazine*.

Fatemeh Momen-Heravi, D.D.S., Ph.D., M.P.H., M.S.

Dr. Momen-Heravi is a Clinician Scientist, Earl Robinson Professor and Division Chief of Periodontology in the Department of Orofacial Sciences at the University of California, San Francisco, School of Dentistry. She provides the full scope of periodontal care while leading divisional education, research and faculty development initiatives.

Dr. Momen-Heravi leads a National Institutes of Health-funded research program focused on oral inflammation, periodontal disease and head and neck cancer. Her work integrates single-cell and spatial omics with translational and clinical approaches, with the goal of developing biomarkers and therapies that improve patient outcomes. She has mentored more than 55 trainees at multiple levels. Previously, she served



on the faculty at Columbia University, where she directed a head and neck cancer research group. She has published more than 120 peer-reviewed papers and book chapters.

Dr. Momen-Heravi's contributions have been recognized with numerous awards, including the International Association for Dental Research (IADR) Distinguished Scientist Young Investigator Award, the Academy of Osseointegration William R. Laney Award, the American Academy of Periodontology Educator Award, the Dr. D. Walter Cohen Teaching Award and the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR)–Mark Foundation "Science of the Patient" Award. She also served on the Board of Directors of the International Association for Dental Research.

Rafael Pacheco, D.D.S., M.Sc., Ph.D.

Dr. Rafael Pacheco is Associate Dean for Digital Technologies and Associate Professor at the Dental College of Georgia at Augusta University. He also serves as Section Director of Dental Materials and Course Director of Dental Materials for predoctoral, graduate and dental hygiene students, while teaching Operative Dentistry and Fixed Prosthodontics.

His responsibilities include leading the integration of digital technologies into academic, clinical and research activities and directing faculty development programs in digital workflows, including scanning, design, milling and 3-D printing. He has authored or co-authored more than 50 peer-reviewed publications and five book chapters, with research focusing on dental materials, CAD/CAM, additive manufacturing and digital applications in education.



Dr. Pacheco previously served as Vice Chair of the Department of Restorative Sciences at the Dental College of Georgia and as Associate Professor with tenure and Chair of the Division of Clinical Essentials and Simulation at the University of Detroit Mercy School of Dentistry. He holds a D.D.S., an M.Sc. in Dental Materials and a Ph.D. in Dental Materials.

His leadership experience spans section, department and college levels, and he continues to mentor faculty and students in research, teaching and innovation in dental education.

Anuradha Prakki, D.D.S., M.Sc., Ph.D.

Dr. Prakki serves as Professor and Associate Dean of Undergraduate Education at the University of Toronto Faculty of Dentistry. In this role, she oversees academic programming, admissions, curriculum development and student success initiatives for D.D.S. and International Dentist Advanced Placement Program programs. A leader in dental education, she has held numerous administrative roles, including Chair of the Undergraduate Education and Awards committees.

Dr. Prakki's academic journey spans Brazil, where she received her D.D.S., M.Sc., and Ph.D.; the United States, where she was a research scholar; and Canada, with advanced training in restorative dentistry and biomaterials. She has taught extensively in preclinical and clinical settings



and has supervised numerous undergraduate, graduate and postdoctoral research projects. Her research focuses on the development and characterization of bioinspired dental materials, supported by grants from Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada, Mitacs and international agencies.

She is a recipient of several teaching awards, including the W.W. Wood Award for Excellence in Dental Education and multiple honorary class memberships. Dr. Prakki has published over 90 peer-reviewed articles and contributed to the ADEA Faculty Diversity Toolkit and the ADEA Climate Study. She holds the prestigious Dr. Miet and Mrs. Wanda Kamienski Professorship in Dental Education.

Monica Prasad Gibson, B.D.S., M.S., Ph.D., FRCD(C)

Dr. Gibson serves as Program Director and Associate Professor with Tenure in the Department of Periodontology at Indiana University School of Dentistry. She oversees graduate periodontal education, curriculum development, accreditation compliance and clinical training.

A board-certified periodontist and Fellow of The Royal College of Dentists of Canada, Dr. Gibson has extensive experience in graduate dental education, having served as an accreditation Site Visitor for the Commission on Dental Accreditation and the Commission on Dental Accreditation of Canada, and as a Board Examiner for The Royal College of Dentists of Canada. Her leadership extends to interdepartmental curriculum initiatives, interdisciplinary training and fiscal planning initiatives. Dr. Gibson is currently serving as the Vice-chair of the U.S. Program Directors Education Committee at the American Academy of Periodontology (AAP) and is the elected Nominating Officer for the District IV for the AAP.



She has been recognized with teaching awards, has delivered invited lectures internationally and has authored peer-reviewed publications in periodontal regeneration, surgical techniques and dental education. Dr. Gibson is committed to advancing dental education through innovative teaching, mentorship and leadership in professional organizations.

Wellington J. Rody Jr., D.D.S., M.S.

Dr. Rody is an Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics at the University of Pittsburgh, where he also served as Residency Program Director. Dr. Rody is a Diplomate of the American Board of Orthodontics and a member of the prestigious Edward H. Angle Society of Orthodontists. He earned his dental degree from the Federal University of Espirito Santo in Brazil, a certificate in Orthodontics from the Catholic University of Minas Gerais in Brazil, an Advanced Education degree in Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics from the University of Florida, Gainesville, and a master's degree in Oral Biology from the University of Washington, Seattle.



Dr. Rody has over 25 years of clinical experience and is heavily involved in the overall clinical and didactic education of dental students and orthodontic residents. He has

been funded from the American Association of Orthodontists Foundation (AAOF) and the National Institutes of Health for his work in translational projects that focus on biomarker discovery. In addition to his leadership roles in academia, his dedication to service is further exemplified by his involvement in organizations, including serving as a member of the AAOF Planning and Awards Review Committee and Director for the Great Lakes Association of Orthodontists.

Rinku S. Saini, D.D.S., M.S., M.P.H.

Dr. Saini is Chair of the Department of Pediatric Dentistry at the University of the Pacific, Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry. A clinician, educator and public health advocate, he brings more than 15 years of private practice experience and an academic background spanning Columbia University College of Dental Medicine; University of California, San Francisco, School of Dentistry; and Dugoni School. His career reflects a sustained commitment to advancing pediatric oral health through education, clinical excellence and health equity.



Dr. Saini earned his D.D.S. and M.P.H. from Columbia University and an M.S. in Cell and Molecular Biology from the University of Hawai'i. He completed a General Practice Residency at UCLA/VA Sepulveda and his Pediatric Dentistry Residency at Children's National Medical Center in Washington, D.C.

At the Dugoni School, Dr. Saini is leading the department's transformation into a national model for inclusive, multidisciplinary care. In partnership with the University of California, Davis, MIND Institute, he is integrating Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities (LEND) principles into faculty development, didactic and clinical curricula and patient care, expanding services for children with neurodevelopmental conditions and special health care needs.

He is a Fellow of the International College of Dentists, the American College of Dentists and the Pierre Fauchard Academy. Dr. Saini maintains a private pediatric dental practice in Danville, CA.

Allison C. Scully, D.D.S., M.S., FAAPD

Dr. Scully is an Associate Professor and Program Director of Predoctoral Pediatric Dentistry at Indiana University School of Dentistry (IUSD). She earned her D.D.S. from IUSD and her Certificate and M.S. in Pediatric Dentistry from University of Michigan School of Dentistry. Dr. Scully is currently working toward her M.S. in the Education of Health Care Professionals at Texas A&M University.



During her seven years as a full-time faculty member at IUSD, Dr. Scully has served as Chair or Co-chair of five committees and member of eight more. She leads curriculum development and manages the predoctoral curriculum in Pediatric Dentistry. In addition to teaching pediatric dental residents, dental students and dental hygiene students, she has mentored over 40 residents and dental students in research.

Dr. Scully currently serves the profession as a second-time officer in the ADEA Section on Pediatric Dentistry, a member of the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry's (AAPD's) Joint Academic Day Planning Committee and a member of the AAPD's Council on Scientific Affairs. Within the past five years, Dr. Scully has been recognized twice for her excellence in teaching with Indiana University's Trustee's Teaching Award and selected as a Master Clinician Scholar by the AAPD. She was also named as one of the American Dental Association's 2025 10 Under 10 award recipients for excellence and inspiring others in science, research and education, practice excellence, philanthropy, leadership and advocacy.

Dr. Scully's research interests include improving access to care for underserved populations, silver diamine fluoride and studying dental care trends and outcomes through dental claims. She is currently funded by two Health Resources and Services Administration grants to innovatively improve access to care for children in the state of Indiana. She has also been awarded over \$80,000 to improve education in pediatric dentistry for dental students and direct access to care for children.

Scott G. Stafford, D.D.S., M.B.A.

Dr. Stafford is a 1996 graduate of UT Health San Antonio School of Dentistry (UT Health SA SOD). He has owned and operated four dental practices, simultaneously, in and around the San Antonio area. He was part-time faculty at UT Health SA SOD from 2001 to 2017. He has lectured nationally and internationally and written on the topic of Practice Management and Ownership for the last 15 years. He has served as guest faculty at University of Nevada, Las Vegas School of Dental Medicine and Roseman University of Health Sciences College of Dental Medicine as they opened. He developed a Practice Management curriculum in a web-based platform that has been utilized at many U.S. dental schools and is currently licensed by 10 dental programs.



Dr. Stafford earned his M.B.A. from Texas Tech University with an emphasis in Health Care Management in 2007. He left private practice in 2017 and became Director of Continuing Dental Education and Practice Management at UT Health SA SOD. In 2023, he was named Chair-interim for the Department of Comprehensive Dentistry and in 2024, he was also named Associate Dean of Patient Care. He is an Associate Professor who currently serves as Course Director in four courses, sponsors a student organization focused on new dentists entering practice and chairs numerous committees in the school. He continues to practice patient care with an emphasis on sports dentistry, provides emergency coverage for professional and collegiate teams and lectures on dental practice environments and formats in predoctoral and resident programs.

In 2022, Dr. Stafford was named "Dentist of the Year" by San Antonio District Dental Society for his support of students and residents as they enter practice.

Carly Timmons McKenzie, Ph.D.

Dr. McKenzie is Associate Dean for Admissions and Student Services at the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Dentistry (UAB SOD). She is an Associate Professor in the UAB SOD Department of Clinical and Community Sciences. In her administrative role, Dr. McKenzie is responsible for the development, implementation and execution of processes related to all aspects of D.M.D. program admissions. She has spearheaded multiple pathway programs, recruitment and development initiatives targeted to building a dental workforce capable of meeting Alabama's needs, with an emphasis on increasing future dental providers serving rural communities.



Dr. McKenzie's research on dental workforce issues has been published in the *ADEA Journal of Dental Education* and by the American Dental Association's Health Policy Institute.

Dr. McKenzie, who was raised primarily in Shreveport, LA, received her doctorate in Communication and Information Sciences from the University of Alabama. She has been working in dental education since 2010 and directs the behavioral sciences curriculum at UAB SOD in addition to her administrative responsibilities. Dr. McKenzie is currently serving her second term as Councilor of the ADEA Behavioral Sciences Section.

Steven S. Toth, D.M.D.

Dr. Toth is Associate Professor in the Department of Diagnostic Sciences and Director of the Ryan White and Associated Grants at Rutgers School of Dental Medicine (RSDM). In this role, he oversees federally and state-funded initiatives to expand access to oral health care for people with HIV/AIDS, while also teaching in diagnostic sciences, radiology and treatment planning clinics.

Since joining the RSDM faculty in 2007, Dr. Toth has advanced community-based dental education and served in multiple leadership roles, including chairing accreditation, search and quality management committees. He has also served on state advisory groups for HIV oral health policy and quality management.



Dr. Toth's recent recognition includes selection to the 2025 One 2 One Care Peer Supporter program and election as President of the RSDM Academic Assembly. In 2025, he graduated from the ADEA Emerging Leaders Program and Rutgers Academic Leadership Program. His scholarship includes peer-reviewed publications on oral health and HIV, trauma-informed care and the associations between periodontal disease and cardiometabolic risk factors.

Dr. Toth is committed to advancing equity in oral health education and access.

Achint Utreja, D.D.S., M.S., Ph.D.

Dr. Utreja is Chair of the Department of Biomedical and Craniofacial Sciences, Professor and Section Head of Orthodontics at the Southern Illinois University School of Dental Medicine (SIU SDM). He previously served as Program Director of Graduate Orthodontics at SIU SDM and as Assistant Professor and Director of Predoctoral Orthodontics at Indiana University School of Dentistry, where he also directed the Mineralized Tissue and Histology Research Laboratory.



In his current role, Dr. Utreja provides academic leadership, oversees orthodontic education at the predoctoral and graduate levels and mentors faculty, residents and students in research. His research interests center on craniofacial growth and translational orthodontics, supported by competitive funding from the American Association of Orthodontists Foundation and industry partnerships. He has published more than 40 peer-reviewed articles, multiple book chapters and presented nationally and internationally.

Dr. Utreja is a Diplomate of the American Board of Orthodontics and an active member of professional organizations, including ADEA; the American Association for Dental, Oral, and Craniofacial Research; the International Association for Dental Research; and the American Association of Orthodontists. He has served as session chair, moderator and reviewer for leading journals in orthodontics and craniofacial biology. Through his work, he remains committed to advancing innovation, collaboration and leadership in dental education.

Cristina Vidal, D.D.S., M.S., Ph.D.

Dr. Vidal is an Associate Professor in the Department of Operative Dentistry at the University of Iowa College of Dentistry and Dental Clinics (UI COD), where she has served since 2016. She earned her D.D.S. and M.S. in Operative Dentistry from São Paulo State University in Brazil, followed by a Ph.D. in Dental Materials from the State University of Campinas and postdoctoral research training at the University of Illinois at Chicago.



As a clinician-scientist with a strong translational research focus, Dr. Vidal investigates host-microbiome interactions in dental caries. Her work has been supported by multiple National Institutes of Health and institutional grants and is widely published in peer-reviewed journals. At UI COD, she has built a collaborative research program and an interdisciplinary mentoring network that spans departments and career stages.

Dr. Vidal is deeply committed to mentorship and has contributed to training initiatives at the college, university and national levels. She teaches in both predoctoral and graduate programs, overseeing students in preclinical and clinical courses in Operative Dentistry and directing graduate courses in restorative materials.

Beyond her academic and research roles, Dr. Vidal serves on editorial boards and participates in national and collegiate committees. She was part of the inaugural cohort of the American

Association for Dental, Oral, and Craniofacial Research (AADOCR) Mind the Future Program and currently serves in leadership roles within AADOCR and International Association for Dental Research Committees. She brings a commitment to collaborative leadership, innovation in dental education and the advancement of research and mentorship in academic dentistry—all in support of excellence in patient care and oral health.

Suman Vij, D.D.S.

Dr. Vij is a Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of Cariology, Restorative Sciences and Endodontics and serves as Director of Patient Admitting and Emergency Services at the University of Michigan School of Dentistry. In her current role, she oversees patient intake and emergency operations while mentoring predoctoral students in the Comprehensive Care Clinics and serving as a Faculty Coach.

Dr. Vij earned her D.D.S. from the University of Michigan School of Dentistry and completed a General Practice Residency at New York Presbyterian Hospital–Weill Cornell Medical Center. Her career includes more than two decades in clinical practice across New York, New Jersey, Arizona and Michigan, where she gained broad experience in private practice ownership, hospital dentistry and comprehensive patient care.

Dr. Vij is actively engaged in organized dentistry and is a member of ADEA, the American Dental Association, the Michigan Dental Association and the American Association for Dental, Oral, and Craniofacial Research.



Jennifer Wadiak, D.D.S.

Dr. Wadiak received her degree from Virginia Commonwealth University School of Dentistry (VCU SOD) in 1999. Upon graduation, she purchased a private practice office where she served the community of Fredericksburg, VA, as a general dentist for over 20 years.

Pursuing a career in dental education was always a long-term goal, so Dr. Wadiak joined the faculty at University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Dentistry (UAB SOD) in 2021. Starting as an Assistant Professor and teaching in the predoctoral clinic at UAB SOD, she was appointed to become the Director of the Comprehensive Care Clinic. She was Course Director of five courses, concentrating on Practice Management and Dental Coding. She also served on several school and university committees as well as the Faculty Senate.

In 2024, Dr. Wadiak joined the faculty at VCU SOD as an Assistant Professor. At VCU SOD, she has again joined several committees, including the Admissions Committee, and served as the Chair of the GP Faculty Search Committee. She is currently working with the Assistant Dean of Student Services, developing a faculty-guided clinical mentoring program along with several faculty development initiatives geared toward improving providing effective clinical feedback to predoctoral students.



Meghan Wendland, D.D.S., M.P.H.

Dr. Meghan Wendland is an Assistant Professor and Interim Vice Chair of the Department of Dental Public Health and Behavioral Science at the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Dentistry (UMKC SOD). She teaches across the predoctoral dental, dental hygiene and advanced dental education programs, where she directs courses in ethics and professionalism, behavioral science and public health. She also coordinates the school's Interprofessional Education program.



Dr. Wendland earned her D.D.S. from the Herman Ostrow School of Dentistry of USC and her M.P.H. from the Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth. She is a Diplomate of the American Board of Dental Public Health and practiced at a Federally Qualified Health Center before completing her residency in Dental Public Health with NYU Langone Hospitals.

She currently serves as Co-chair of the Council on Educational Affairs for the American Association of Public Health Dentistry. Her honors include the National Dental Association's 40 Under 40 Award in 2023 and UMKC's Dr. Robert Menchetti Junior Faculty Award in 2022. Dr. Wendland has presented at professional meetings and published peer-reviewed articles, including "Women in Dental Education and Their Desire to Lead: A Follow-up" in the *ADEA Journal of Dental Education*.

Angela J. Yoon, D.D.S., M.P.H., M.A.M.Sc.

Dr. Yoon is Professor and Director of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology and Oral Diagnostic Biopsy Service in the Department of Biomedical & Community Health Sciences at the Medical University of South Carolina James B. Edwards College of Dental Medicine (MUSC CDM). She is also a Professor and Director of Biorepository and Tissue Analysis Shared Resources in the Hollings Cancer Center and College of Graduate Studies at MUSC College of Medicine at MUSC. Dr. Yoon serves as Course Director and Instructor of Third-year Oral Pathology and an Instructor of Advanced Oral Pathology at MUSC CDM.



She also serves as Faculty Liaison at MUSC CDM, Committee Chair of the Appointment, Promotion & Tenure Committee and Committee Chair of Faculty and Staff Development at the University.

She earned her M.P.H. from the Boston University School of Public Health and her M.A.M.Sc. from the Boston University School of Medicine—both in 1999. Dr. Yoon later received her D.D.S. in 2003 from Columbia University College of Dental Medicine.

Dr. Yoon is an Oral and Maxillofacial Pathologist with expertise in the clinical management of patients with a variety of mucosal conditions and is adept at conducting proper head and neck examinations, performing mucosal biopsies and providing proper treatments.

As an academic Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology Clinician-Scientist, she is engaged in the translation of laboratory science into new molecular risk assessment strategies and improving

therapies for oral epithelial neoplasms. She has background in public health, dentistry and oral medicine, and has dedicated a considerable part of her career to the diagnosis and management of oral precancers and cancers.

Devoted to improving clinical management, Dr. Yoon has conducted a number of studies assessing the molecular diagnostic and prognostic biomarkers of oral neoplasm. Dr. Yoon is investigating the prognostic utility of microRNA-based markers for oral cancer patients. She also is currently leading a clinical trial evaluating the efficacy of an immunomodulatory agent for oral cancer used in neoadjuvant setting.

ADEA Leadership Institute Faculty Biographies

Hilary Malawer, J.D.

Ms. Malawer serves as ADEA Chief Advocacy Officer. Previously, Ms. Malawer served as Deputy General Counsel at the U.S. Department of Education (ED), where she led five divisions: Regulations, Legislation, Business and Administrative Law, Ethics and Postsecondary Education. A member of the Senior Executive Service with more than 25 years of experience in education law, she was one of the two highest-ranking career attorneys in the ED's Office of the General Counsel.



After earning a Master of Science in Education from Johns Hopkins University and a Juris Doctor from Tulane University Law School, Ms. Malawer litigated on behalf of individuals with disabilities at the Virginia Office for Protection and Advocacy before entering federal service.

At the national level, Ms. Malawer led complex regulatory initiatives spanning K–12 education, higher education, special education and civil rights. Throughout her tenure, she advised the ED Secretary and senior leadership on federal education law and policy. She also served as ED's liaison to the Administrative Conference of the United States, the *Federal Register* and the Office of Management and Budget. In addition, she helped shape legal strategies for billions of dollars in discretionary grants supporting education and health priorities and developed legal frameworks for economically significant grant initiatives.

Ms. Malawer has been recognized by ED for leadership, innovation, regulatory excellence and advancing policies with national impact. She is a member of the Virginia State Bar.

Dee Ramsel, Ph.D., M.B.A.

Dr. Dee Ramsel is a Senior Consultant for AAL and works in the areas of executive coaching, leadership development, team building, strategic planning and organizational consultation. As a former senior executive in the federal government and leader of organizational health for U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, she brings extensive experience as a leader and facilitator to executives, teams and organizations that wish to improve their performance.

Dr. Ramsel's credentials include a Doctorate in Clinical Psychology and an M.B.A., as well as experience as a clinician, mental health executive, postdoctoral fellowship director, organization development consultant and medical college professor. She was a



co-principal investigator in executive coaching outcomes and has published articles in peer-reviewed journals on several topics, including employee engagement, psychological safety and change management.

Dr. Ramsel stays active in professional societies and community organizations. She is the former President of both the Society of Psychologists in Management (now Society of Psychologists in Leadership) and the Society of Consulting Psychology and served as an Associate Professor at the Medical College of Wisconsin. She has won multiple awards, including the highly competitive 2019 Meritorious Presidential Rank Award. Other recent accolades include the Leadership Worth Following Excellence in Developing Consulting Psychologists Award and the American Psychological Association Presidential Citation.

Felicia L. Tucker-Lively, M.P.H., Ph.D.

Dr. Felicia L. Tucker-Lively is the Vice President of AAL, an Atlanta-based company focused on providing professional development and consulting services to individuals, institutions and organizations in health and higher education. She develops, oversees and facilitates sessions for various professional development programs, both for AAL and for specific client projects. She has assisted faculty, residents and administrators in cultivating their growth and development in a variety of settings.



Dr. Tucker-Lively holds a B.S. in Human Service Studies from Cornell University, an M.P.H. in Sociomedical Sciences from Columbia University and a Ph.D. in Educational Leadership from Mercer University. Her experience in administration, operational management, professional and organizational development and program coordination at health professions schools and hospitals spans 23 years. Dr. Tucker-Lively maintains a variety of memberships and leadership positions in professional and community organizations.

She was recently appointed one of 12 nationwide faculty and independent researchers to the ADEA Collaborative on Dental Education Climate Assessment, charged with exploring issues of diversity, equity, inclusion and wellness throughout the United States and Canada. Her background involves working with executive leadership teams to solve challenges, develop alternatives and create efficiencies for improving program quality.

Rebecca S. Wilder, M.S., B.S.D.H., ICF-ACC

Prof. Rebecca S. Wilder is a career academician, having served on the faculty at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill for over three decades. She is currently the Adams Term Professor and Associate Dean for Professional Development and Faculty Affairs at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Adams School of Dentistry (UNC SOD). Previously, she served as Director of the Master of Science Degree Program in Dental Hygiene Education and as the inaugural Director of Faculty Development for the dental school. She is Editor Emeritus of the *Journal of Dental Hygiene*, where she served as Editor for 14 years.



She is a recipient of several awards, including the Colgate/IADR Oral Health Research Award, the Pfizer/American Dental Hygienists' Association Award for Excellence in Dental Hygiene and the Alumni Achievement Award from the University of Missouri–Kansas City. She was a Fellow in the 2007-08 ADEA Leadership Institute. In 2012, she was inducted into Omicron Kappa Upsilon (OKU), the dental honorary society. In 2014, she was selected to receive the inaugural UNC SOD Faculty Mentoring Award.

Prof. Wilder has published approximately 200 articles, abstracts, book chapters and editorials. She speaks nationally and internationally on such topics as nonsurgical periodontal therapy and products, oral-systemic health and leadership and communication strategies for team success.

In addition to her academic degrees, Prof. Wilder holds an Executive Certificate in Leadership Coaching from Georgetown University and is certified by the International Coaching Federation as an Associate Certified Coach. She coaches and mentors academicians, health care providers and corporate leaders in the areas of executive presence, leading during change, communication as a tool to drive change, new leader coaching, stress management, conflict dynamics and team facilitation.

Pamela Zarkowski, J.D., M.P.H.

Prof. Pamela Zarkowski is Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs of University of Detroit Mercy. She is Chief Academic Officer for the University, which includes a School of Architecture, College of Business Administration, College of Engineering & Science, College of Liberal Arts & Education, School of Dentistry, School of Law and College of Health Professions. In addition to academic oversight, Prof. Zarkowski supervises key student and institutional support offices, including Libraries and Instructional Technology, Student Success Center, Office of Institutional Research and Effectiveness, Office of Sponsored Research Activities, Institute for Leadership and Service, Title IX and Equity and Compliance, Trio and Upward Bound programs, Women's and Gender Studies, the Honors Program, Student Fellowships and Catholic Studies.



ADEA Leadership Institute Advisor Biographies

Isabel Garcia, D.D.S., M.P.H.

Dr. Isabel Garcia joined the University of Florida College of Dentistry as Dean on Feb. 16, 2015, after retiring from the U.S. Public Health Service in 2014 as a Rear Admiral Lower Half. Dr. Garcia's career spans 34 years in public health, clinical practice, research, teaching and administration at the local, state and national levels.



Dr. Garcia joined the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR) in 1995 and held multiple leadership roles during her time there. She led NIDCR's science transfer efforts, directed the Institute's Office of Science Policy and Analysis and served as NIDCR Acting Director from 2010-2011. Dr. Garcia also served as the Institute's coordinator for global health and took over as Director of NIDCR's Residency in Dental Public Health program in 2005. As Deputy Director of the NIDCR, Dr. Garcia shared responsibility for the oversight and management of programs and functions within the Institute, which included a staff of more than 400 scientists and administrators dedicated to research, training, science policy, health education, communications and financial management.

Dr. Garcia received a Doctorate in Dental Surgery in 1980 from Virginia Commonwealth University School of Dentistry and a master's degree in Public Health from the University of Michigan in 1988. She subsequently completed a residency in dental public health at the University of Michigan and a fellowship in primary care policy from the U.S. Public Health Service. While pursuing her master's, Dr. Garcia was a Lecturer and Adjunct Assistant Professor in the University of Michigan School of Dentistry. She later served as an Adjunct Assistant Professor at The Ohio State University College of Dentistry.

The recipient of numerous honors and awards, Dr. Garcia has received the National Institutes of Health Director's Award for Mentoring, the American Association for Dental, Oral and Craniofacial Research's Jack Hein Public Service Award and the U.S. Public Health Service Jack D. Robertson Award for outstanding long-term dedication and service to improve the oral health of the nation. A Fellow of the American College of Dentists, Dr. Garcia is also a Diplomate of the American Board of Dental Public Health and an active member of ADEA, the International Association for Dental Research and the American Dental Association.

Frank Licari, B.S., M.B.A., M.P.H., D.D.S.

Dr. Frank W. Licari has been Dean and Professor of the Roseman University of Health Sciences College of Dental Medicine since 2013. He has over 30 years of experience as an educator, administrator and clinician.

From 2019-2021, he simultaneously served as the Interim Chancellor of the Roseman University Utah campus. He previously served as Associate Dean for academic affairs and professor at Midwestern University College of Dental Medicine-Illinois and has also held several leadership positions at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) College of Dentistry, Marquette University School of Dentistry and the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA). He is an internationally known speaker, author and consultant. Dr. Licari has worked with over 80 dental schools on curriculum development, student competency assessment, accreditation, and faculty development in the United States, Canada, Chile, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates. He formerly served as the Chair of the Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations and currently serves as a CODA Commissioner.



Dr. Licari holds three advanced degrees from UIC, including Doctor of Dental Surgery, Master of Public Health and Master of Business Administration. He has been recognized with the Utah Business Health Care Hero Award for Innovation, UIC Distinguished Dental Alumnus Award, Pierre Fauchard Certificate of Merit, memberships in Delta Omega and Omicron Kappa Upsilon honor societies and fellowships with the American College of Dentists and the International College of Dentists.

Fotinos Panagakos, D.M.D., Ph.D.

Dr. Fotinos Panagakos received his D.M.D. from the Rutgers School of Dental Medicine (RSDM) and his Ph.D. in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from Rutgers University Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences in 1992. In 1999, he received his master's degree in Education from Seton Hall University and in 2007 he received his master's degree in Business Administration from Lehigh University.

He was commissioned in 1986 as a Second Lieutenant and served for 13 years in the New Jersey Army National Guard and Army Reserve, departing as a Major in 1999. From 1993 until 2005, he served as a full-time faculty member at RSDM in a number of administrative and academic positions and maintained a private, dental practice. From June 2005 until November 2017, Dr. Panagakos served in several roles with increasing responsibility at the Colgate-Palmolive Company, where he focused on clinical research, scientific affairs, key thought leader management and interfacing with the external professional and consumer communities. In November 2017, he joined Geistlich Pharma North America as Vice President, Scientific and Clinical Affairs. He joined the West Virginia University School of Dentistry (WVU SOD) in August 2018 as the Associate Dean for Research. From July 2020 until May 2021, Dr. Panagakos served as the Interim Dean at WVU SOD. In January 2022,



he assumed responsibility and oversight of the postdoctoral programs at the school. In March 2022, Pacific Northwest University of Health Sciences School of Dental Medicine named Dr. Panagakos its Founding Dean.

Dr. Panagakos is the co-author of over 88 peer-reviewed, scientific research articles and is the Co-editor of three dental science textbooks. His areas of interest include the role of inflammation in oral and overall health, the impact of nutrition on oral health and wellness and the effects of enhanced oral health benefits through Medicaid and Medicare on wellness and socioeconomic measures among rural and underserved adults.

Robert M. Trombly, D.D.S., J.D.

Dr. Robert M. Trombly is Dean and Professor at A.T. Still University Arizona School of Dentistry & Oral Health. He received his B.S. and D.D.S. from the University of Michigan. He completed his General Practice Residency at Hennepin County Medical Center and his J.D. at the University of Denver. His background includes private practice in general dentistry, practice/risk management consulting and academic/administrative appointments at the University of Colorado School of Dental Medicine, Western University of Health Sciences School of Dental Medicine and University of Detroit Mercy School of Dentistry.



Dr. Trombly is an active member of American Dental Association (ADA) and ADEA. He also serves as Site Visitor for the ADA Commission on Dental Accreditation. He is a Fellow in the American College of Dentists and International College of Dentists, Pierre Fauchard Academy and a member of Omicron Kappa Upsilon National Dental Honor Society. His scholarly interests include educational research, community-based education, law and ethics.

Carroll Ann Trotman, B.D.S., M.A., M.S.

Dr. Carroll Ann Trotman was appointed as Dean of The Ohio State University College of Dentistry (OSU COD) in August 2021. Prior to joining the university, she served as Chair of the Department of Orthodontics and Associate Dean for Faculty Development at Tufts University School of Dental Medicine.

Dr. Trotman received her dental degree from Dundee University in Scotland, and her Orthodontic degree and master's degree in Oral Biology from Columbia University College of Dental Medicine. She then completed a Fellowship in Craniofacial Anomalies at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. She was appointed as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Orthodontics at the University of Michigan School of Dentistry. During her tenure at Michigan, she obtained a Master of Science degree in Clinical Research Design and Statistical Analysis from Michigan's Horace Rackham School of Graduate Studies.



Dr. Trotman was appointed Associate Professor and subsequently Professor in the Department of Orthodontics at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Adams School of Dentistry (UNC SOD). While at UNC, she served as Interim Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and then Assistant Dean for Graduate Education. She then moved to the University of Maryland School of Dentistry as a Professor and Associate Dean for Academic and Student Affairs.

Dr. Trotman is a Fellow of the American Council on Education and a Diplomate of the American Board of Orthodontics. She maintains a National Institutes of Health-funded research program. As the OSU COD senior leader, she is committed to implementing innovations in the dental hygiene and dental curricula, utilizing contemporary technologies for education and patient care and advancing the College's research and strategic initiatives.

ADEA Leadership Institute
ADEA Staff



Alanna DeLeon
Program Manager



Eric T. Lund, M.A.
Professional Development Manager



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