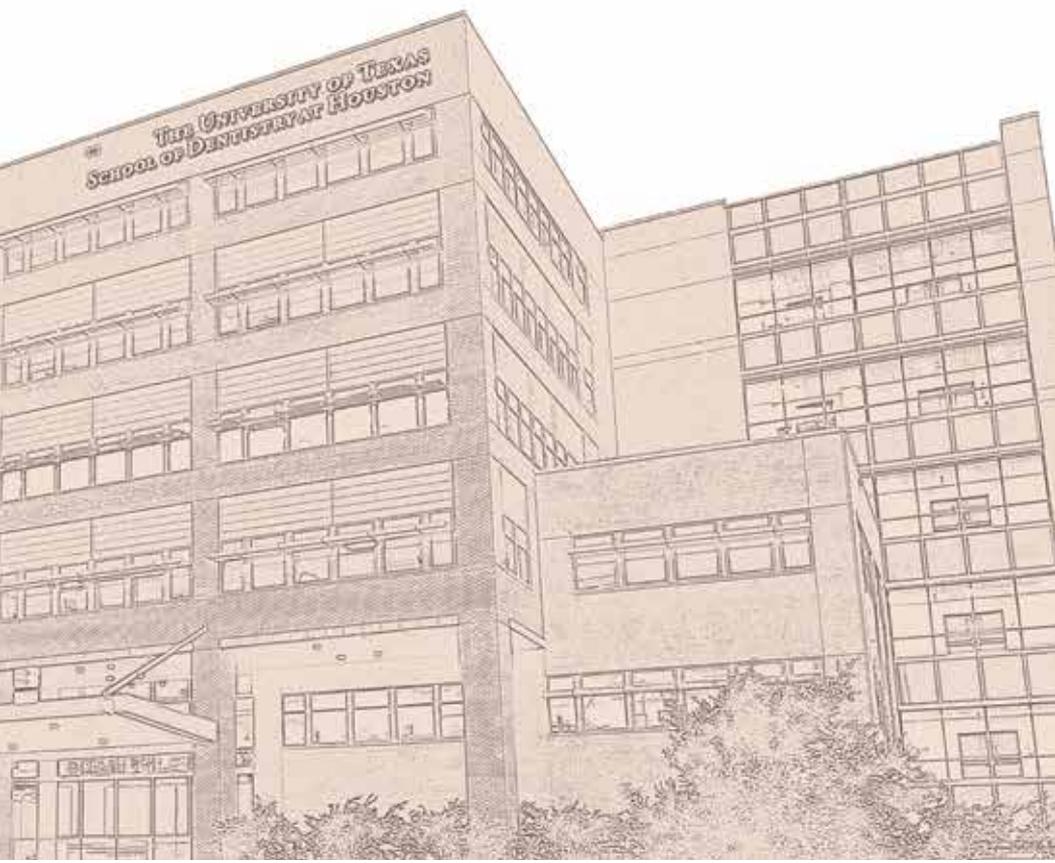


One Hundred Fifteenth

Commencement Convocation Ceremony

Sunday, July 19, 2020

A Virtual Graduation Ceremony



THE ORDER OF EXERCISES

Greetings

John A. Valenza, DDS
Dean

Inspirational Message

Ashley Clark, DDS
Associate Professor
University of Kentucky College of Dentistry

Introduction of the Speaker

Dr. Valenza

Remarks from ADEA

Ryan Quock, DDS
Chairman, Board of Directors
American Dental Education Association

Welcome Remarks & Conferring of Degrees

Giuseppe N. Colasurdo, MD
President, UTHealth

Presentation of Candidates

Robert D. Spears, MS, PhD
Associate Dean, Student & Academic Affairs

Administration of Dentist's Pledge

David P. Gonzalez, DDS '94
President, UTSD Alumni Association

Administration of Dental Hygiene Oath

Lorie L. Jones, RDH, BSDH '06
President, UT-Houston Dental Hygienists' Alumni Association

Closing

Dr. Valenza
Joy Nisnisan, DDS Class of 2022



THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SYSTEM

James B. Milliken

Chancellor

Steven W. Leslie, PhD

Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

John M. Zerwas, MD

Executive Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs



BOARD OF REGENTS

Kevin P. Eltife

Chair, Tyler

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Dallas

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Austin

Jodie Lee Jiles

Houston

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Dallas

Nolan Perez, MD

Harlingen



UTHEALTH LEADERSHIP

Giuseppe N. Colasurdo, MD

President, University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston
Alkek-Williams Distinguished Chair

SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY

John A. Valenza, DDS

Dean

William N. Finnegan, III, Distinguished
Teaching Professor in the Dental Sciences

Joe T. Morrow, BBA

Associate Dean for Management

Sophia Saeed, DMD

Associate Dean for Patient Care

Lisa D. Cain, PhD

Associate Dean for Professional Development and Faculty Affairs

Jacqueline T. Hecht, MS, PhD

Associate Dean for Research

Leah L. Lewis Distinguished Chair in Pediatric Research

Arthur H. Jeske, DMD, PhD

Associate Dean for Strategic Planning
and Continuing Dental Education

Robert D. Spears, MS, PhD

Associate Dean for Student and Academic Affairs

Muhammad F. Walji, MS, PhD

Associate Dean for Technology Services and Informatics

Ralph A. Cooley, DDS

Assistant Dean for Admissions and Student Services



DEPARTMENT CHAIRS AND DIRECTOR

Anita Joy, BDS, PhD

Interim Chair, Diagnostic and Biomedical Sciences

Renato M. Silva, DDS, MS, PhD

Chair, Endodontics

Gary N. Frey, DDS

Chair, General Practice and Dental Public Health

Mark E. Wong, DDS

Chair, Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery

Jeryl D. English, DDS, MS

Chair, Orthodontics

Gregory W. Olson DDS, MS

Chair, Pediatric Dentistry

Nikola Angelov, DDS, MS, PhD

Chair, Periodontics and Dental Hygiene

Donna Warren Morris, RDH, MEd

Director, Dental Hygiene Program

Maria A. Loza, DMD, MS

Chair, Restorative Dentistry and Prosthodontics



CLASS OFFICERS

Hillary D. Strassner

President, Dental Class of 2020

Vishwa P. Bhatt

President, Dental Hygiene Class of 2020

**CANDIDATES FOR
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE
IN DENTAL HYGIENE**

July 19, 2020

Emily K. Andrade Alas

Gabrielle C. Alis

Abigail D. Bartlett

Vishwa P. Bhatt

UTSD Student Award in Interprofessional Education

Brittney L. Davis

Darby Dietrich

Hanna G. Dollar

Johnson & Johnson Dental Hygiene Excellence Award

Sigma Phi Alpha Honor Society Award

Uyen T. Duong

Dariana C. Estrada

Jennifer K. Flores Caballero

Heaven Fogle

Sigma Phi Alpha Honor Society

University of Texas – Houston Dental Hygienists’

Alumni Association Award

Meagan M. Fondren

Ana R. Garcia

Andrea A. Garcia

Colgate Oral Pharmaceutical Star Award

Sigma Phi Alpha Honor Society Award

Raegan Hargis

Tran N. Hau

UTSD Evidence-Based Dentistry Award

Yarimar Holden

Julie Huynh

Randi R. Jones

Cristina I. Kinn

American Association of Public Health Dentistry Award

Emily Kurtin

Vivian Le

UTSD Informatics Award

Rachel Murad

Tina T. Nguyen

Luna T. Pham

Procter & Gamble Preventive Dentistry Award

Karley M. Prine

Jayme D. Prosch

Alma B. Rodriguez

Chelsie M. Rosa

Xochilt Serrano

Hu-Friedy Clinical Achievement Award-Golden Scaler
University of Texas – Houston Dental Hygienists' Alumni Association Award

Athena Sevilla

Amanda M. Slama

Han Ta

ePortfolio Award

Maria L. Tellez

Andrea L. Tiernan

Kristen M. Valenzuela

Greater Houston Dental Hygienists' Association Award
Sigma Phi Alpha Honor Society Award

Carissa Vaughn

Cindy Voson

Allison P. Walton

UTSD Simulation Award



CANDIDATES FOR DOCTOR OF DENTAL SURGERY

July 19, 2020

Saeid Abbasiyan

Private Practice

American College of Prosthodontists Award

Southwest Academy of Restorative Dentistry Award

Noreen Ali

Private Practice

Houston, Texas

International College of Dentists Student Humanitarian Award

Joice E. An

Private Practice

Afreen A. Ansari

Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery Internship

Louisiana State University

New Orleans, Louisiana

Bernice A. Bamgbade

Advanced Education in General Dentistry Residency

NYU Langone Dental Medicine

Atlanta, Georgia

Bakhtiar S. Bana

Private Practice

Kelli L. Bass

Private Practice

Abilene, Texas

Krishna V. Mangrolia Bhakta

Private Practice

Los Angeles, California

Vashti R. Bueso

Private Practice

Portland, Oregon

American Academy of Oral and

Maxillofacial Radiology Achievement Award

American Association of Endodontists Student Achievement Award

Alexander T. Cai

General Practice Residency

Mercy Hospital St. Louis

St. Louis, Missouri

Ian A. Castell

Private Practice

Brownsville, Texas

Ashley S. Chacko

Private Practice

Anacristina Chapa

Private Practice

Edinburg, Texas

Christopher J. Conser

Private Practice

American Academy of Orofacial Pain Outstanding Senior Award

American Dental Society of Anesthesiology Horace Wells Award

American Equilibration Society

Edwards C. Hinds Academy Award

Logan E. Cornwell

Private Practice

Ala E. Daghestani

Private Practice

Houston, Texas

International College of Dentists Student Leadership Award

Delvin Daison

Private Practice

Lan H. Dao

Private Practice

Layla Daoudi

Private Practice

Houston, Texas

Andrea Ina C. de los Santos

Private Practice

Ninth District Dental Society Award for Collegiality

Belen P. Diaz

Private Practice

McAllen, Texas

Huy T. Dong

Private Practice

Sabah B. Farooqi

Private Practice

Rosenburg, Texas

Sara Ferdowsali

Private Practice

San Francisco, California

Marissa E. Fernandez

Private Practice

Houston, Texas

Kinga Forsyth

Private Practice

Keagan B. Foss

Private Practice

Rocelle P. Gadia

Private Practice

McAllen, Texas

Devanshi Gajjar

General Practice Residency

Richard L. Roudebush VA Medical Center

Indianapolis, Indiana

American College of Dentists Outstanding Student Leader Award

W. Kenneth Horwitz, DDS, Ethics and Professionalism Award

Roozbeh Ghasemi

Private Practice

Sai C. Goolla

Private Practice

Kristen M. Harroff

Private Practice

Houston, Texas

Mohamed W. Hassan

Private Practice

Houston, Texas

Brooke A. Hawkins

Private Practice

Lufkin, Texas

Academy of General Dentistry Senior Student Dental Award

Dorothy D. Hino

Private Practice

Dallas, Texas

Texas Association of Women Dentists Award

Thai Cuong N. Ho

Private Practice

Society for Color and Appearance in Dentistry Award

Amy N. Hoang

Private Practice

Houston, Texas

Jennifer N. Hoang

Private Practice

Temple, Texas

Academy of Operative Dentistry Award

Dentsply Merit Award in Removable Prosthodontics

Tiffany E. Holcomb

*Pediatric Dentistry Residency
University of California
Los Angeles, California*

American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry
Predoctoral Student Award

Cody R. Holt

*Private Practice
Houston, Texas*

Durstin W. Hooper

*Private Practice
Wickenburg, Arizona*

American Academy of Oral Medicine Certificate
of Merit and Award in Oral Medicine
Ninth District Dental Society Award for Collegiality
Society for Simulation in Health Care Student Award

Joshua A. Johnson

*Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Residency
Dental College of Georgia at Augusta University
Augusta, Georgia*

Ha Eun “Mary” Jung

*Periodontics Residency
UTHealth School of Dentistry at Houston*

Quintessence Award for Clinical Achievement in Periodontics

Aasrita Katragadda

Private Practice

Meisa Keivani

*Prosthodontics Residency
UTHealth School of Dentistry at Houston*

Hanau Best of the Best Award for Excellence in Prosthodontics

Amy T. La

*Private Practice
Houston, Texas*

ASDA Award of Excellence

Matthew Le

Private Practice

Stacey C. Lee

*Private Practice
Houston, Texas*

International Congress of Oral Implantologists
DENTSPLY Student Achievement Award

Erick D. Lopez

*Private Practice
League City, Texas*

Tasneem A. Mahmood

Private Practice

Houston, Texas

UTSD Informatics Award

Rachel T. Mai

Private Practice

Houston, Texas

Grant E. Marcantel

Private Practice

Sucharitha Marneni

Private Practice

Academy of Osseointegration Outstanding

Dental Student in Implant Dentistry Award

Susmitha Marneni

Private Practice

Houston, Texas

Andrew Martinez

Pediatric General Practice Residency

Oklahoma University Children's Physicians Hospital

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Amy B. Milman

Private Practice

Academy of Dental Materials Award

Ninth District Dental Society Award for Collegiality

Muhammad Minhal

Private Practice

Dallas, Texas

Special Care Dentistry Association/Academy of
Dentistry for Persons with Disabilities Student Award

Andrew G. Moore

Advanced Education in General Dentistry Residency

University of Tennessee

Nashville, Tennessee

Jeffrey T. Mount

Orthodontics Residency

UTHealth School of Dentistry at Houston

Marshall C. Myrick

Private Practice

DeFuniak Springs, Florida

Ninth District Dental Society Ethics and Integrity Award

Natalie Nassif

Private Practice

Missouri City, Texas

UTSD Student Award in Applied Basic Science Award

Tan T. Ngo

Private Practice

Han V. Nguyen

Private Practice

Pearland, Texas

Kimem T. Nguyen

Private Practice

Thai N. Nguyen

Private Practice

Thuy K. Nguyen

Private Practice

Houston, Texas

Tyler M. Nguyen

Private Practice

Jade Nix

Advanced Education in General Dentistry Residency

University of Oklahoma College of Dentistry

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Abbey L. Norwood

Private Practice

Rogers, Arkansas

Jerrod R. Odette

Private Practice

Matthew P. O'Neil

Military Service

Las Vegas, Nevada

The Brian D. Stone Memorial Award

from Dental Lifeline Network

Houston Academy of General Dentistry Award

Lynsey N. Patterson

Private Practice

Cypress, Texas

Jessica T. Pham

Private Practice

Katy, Texas

Ninth District Dental Society Award for Collegiality

Nhat S. Pham

Private Practice

Houston, Texas

Phi T. Pham

Private Practice

Houston, Texas

Alexander B. Plagenhoef

Private Practice

Ninth District Dental Society Award for Collegiality

Francesca M. Ramos

Private Practice

Providence, Rhode Island

Zehra Razvi

Private Practice

Ashley N. Roy

Private Practice

Lauren N. Sanchez

General Practice Residency

UTHealth School of Dentistry at Houston

American Association of Public Health

Dentistry Recognition Award

Patrick D. Scholl

Private Practice

Houston Society of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon Awards

Jirga Shah

Private Practice

Dallas, Texas

Rehan Shahid

Private Practice

Mount Pleasant, Texas

Jennifer A. Siller

Orthodontics Residency

UTHealth School of Dentistry at Houston

American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial

Pathology Dental Student Award

American Association of Orthodontists Award

James P. Ferguson Award for Excellence in Dental Anatomy

Walter G. Sterling Award

Katie A. Stewart

Private Practice

Seguin, Texas

Hillary D. Strassner

Pediatric Dentistry Residency

UTHealth School of Dentistry at Houston

Delta Dental Community Care Foundation

Student Leadership Award

Texas Dental Association Outstanding Senior Award

UTSD Alumni Association Award

Sarah Suki

Private Practice

Dallas, Texas

Quintessence Award for Clinical
Achievement in Restorative Dentistry

Paul G. Swinney

Private Practice

Jiayin “Julie” Tan

Periodontics Residency

UTHealth School of Dentistry at Houston

The Academy of Dentistry International

Student Servant Leadership Award

American Academy of Periodontology

Dental Student Achievement Award

American Association of Women Dentists–Eleanor J. Bushee Award

Rashmi Thapa

Private Practice

Dallas, Texas

Jacob M. Thompson

Private Practice

Pierre Fauchard Academy Senior Student Award

Erica L. Trammell

Private Practice

Tyler, Texas

Kim M. Tran

Private Practice

Houston, Texas

W. Kenneth Horwitz, DDS, Ethics and Professionalism Award

Thuy T. “LeAnn” Truong

Private Practice

Houston, Texas

Houston Chapter of the American Association
for Dental Research Award

Victoria N. Turner

Private Practice

College Station-Bryan, Texas

American Academy of Implant Dentistry

Undergraduate Dental Student Award

Homero J. Vela-Gomez

Private Practice

Laredo, Texas

Natalie A. Vos

Private Practice

Houston, Texas

The American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry

Undergraduate Clinical Case Award

Greater Houston Dental Society Community Dentistry Award

Jerry Walker

Private Practice

Las Cruces, New Mexico

Victoria T. Walling

Private Practice

Billings, Montana

Kirk L. Ward

Private Practice

Houston, Texas

Kimberly N. Westerman

Private Practice

Houston, Texas

The Dr. Robert O. Dosch and Dr. James L. Rout Award

Quintessence Award for Research Achievement

Alan M. Williams

Private Practice

Cypress, Texas

American Academy of Esthetic Dentistry

Stephanie L. Williams

Orthodontics Residency

University of Tennessee

Memphis, Tennessee

Ethics Essay Award

W. Kenneth Horwitz, DDS, Ethics and Professionalism Award



**ELECTED TO
OMICRON KAPPA UPSILON
NATIONAL DENTAL HONOR SOCIETY,
MU MU CHAPTER**

Saeid Abbasiyan

Vashti R. Bueso

Ian Adan Castell

Keagan Foss

Dorothy D. Hino

Durstin W. Hooper

Jeffrey T. Mount

Jade Nix

Patrick D. Scholl

Jennifer A. Siller

Kimberly N. Westerman

Stephanie L. Williams



**ELECTED TO SIGMA PHI ALPHA
NATIONAL DENTAL HYGIENE
HONOR SOCIETY,
ALPHA EPSILON CHAPTER**

Hanna G. Dollar

Heaven Fogle

Andrea A. Garcia

Kristen M. Valenzuela

THE DENTIST'S PLEDGE

I, as a member of the dental profession, shall keep this pledge and these stipulations.

I understand and accept that my primary responsibility is to my patients, and I shall dedicate myself to render, to the best of my ability, the highest standard of oral health care and to maintain a relationship of respect and confidence. Therefore, let all come to me safe in the knowledge that their total health and well-being are my first considerations.

I shall accept the responsibility that, as a professional, my competence rests on continuing the attainment of knowledge and skill in the arts and sciences of dentistry.

I acknowledge my obligation to support and sustain the honor and integrity of the profession and to conduct myself in all endeavors such that I shall merit the respect of patients, colleagues and my community. I further commit myself to the betterment of my community for the benefit of all of society.

I shall faithfully observe the Principles of Ethics and Code of Professional Conduct set forth by the profession.

All this I pledge with pride in my commitment to the profession and the public it serves.



DENTAL HYGIENE OATH

In my practice as a dental hygienist, I affirm my personal and professional commitment to improve the oral health of the public, to advance the art and science of dental hygiene, and to promote high standards of quality care.

I pledge continually to improve my professional knowledge and skills, to render a full measure of service to each patient entrusted to my care, and to uphold the highest standards of professional competence and personal conduct in the interest of the dental hygiene profession and the public it serves.

A recording of today's events will be posted at

Go.uth.edu/Grad2020

