

Welcome

Message from Dr. Mary C. Farach-Carson, Associate Dean for Research



Welcome to the 2023 Student Research Showcase. This year marks the 13th year of the Showcase featuring the exciting research findings generated by our students, residents and postdoctoral trainees. More than 20 mentors and nearly 32 students will be presenting their exciting research discoveries in both oral and poster formats. We are privileged to host our keynote speaker, Dr. Natalia Chalmers DDS, MHSc, PhD, who will present a seminar on “Oral Health: An Evidence and Data-Driven Approach to Achieve Better Health, Equity, and Fiscal Responsibility” as part of the William T. Butler Lectureship series. We invite you to participate and enjoy this day where we showcase our recent discoveries that span from basic to clinical research. Congratulations to all students and mentors for their dedication to discovery that made this an exciting summer research program.

Message from Dr. Dharini van der Hoeven, Director of Pre-/Post-Doctoral Research



Through their participation in research and creative endeavors, dental and dental hygiene students become better thinkers, innovators, and problem solvers, cultivating a depth of understanding needed to make a positive difference in the world. At the Research Showcase, we recognize those students who participated in the Summer Research Program and celebrate their contributions to discovery. As with any difficult undertaking, it takes a team effort to be successful, and special thanks and recognition are due to the faculty mentors who volunteer their time and knowledge to support the Summer Research Program. I hope you enjoy this year’s Research Showcase. Thank you for supporting our students on this special day.

Location

Denton A. Cooley, MD and Ralph C. Cooley, DDS
University Life Center, 7440 Cambridge Street,
Houston, TX 77054

Schedule

12:00 –12:30 PM LUNCH

12:30-2:00 PM STUDENT POSTER PRESENTATIONS

—Welcome & Opening remarks—

2:00-3:15 PM STUDENT ORAL PRESENTATIONS

3:20-3:25 PM INTRODUCTION TO WILLIAM T.
BUTLER DISTINGUISHED LECTURE

3:30-4:20 PM KEYNOTE LECTURE

4:30-5:00 PM AWARDS CEREMONY



—Closing remarks—

William T. Butler Lectureship

The William T. Butler Distinguished Lecture was established in 2018 to honor the legacy of Professor Emeritus William Thomas “Bill” Butler, PhD, who served on the faculty of UTHealth School of Dentistry at Houston from 1987 until his retirement in 2004.

Dr. Butler was an expert in mineralized tissue and bone biology and published 245 scientific papers. He was the co-discoverer of the bone matrix protein, osteopontin, and made many valuable contributions to our understanding of bone and dentin matrix proteins. He was intensely passionate about research and mentored many of the bone biologists currently working in the field. We are honored to name the feature lecture at the annual student research showcase for this outstanding former member of our faculty.

WILLIAM T. BUTLER DISTINGUISHED LECTURER



Natalia Chalmers, DDS, MHSc, PhD
“Oral Health: An Evidence and Data-
Driven Approach to Achieve Better
Health, Equity, and Fiscal Responsibility”