

School of Dentistry

Degrees Offered

- D.D.S. in Dentistry
- M.S. in Dental Specialties (Endodontics, Orthodontics, Periodontics and Prosthodontics)

Historical Background

The School of Dentistry was established by an act of the West Virginia Legislature on March 9, 1951, and the first class was enrolled in September 1957. A class of twenty-three students graduated in 1961, receiving the first dental degrees awarded in West Virginia. In September 1961, the first two students were enrolled in the school's baccalaureate degree program in dental hygiene and graduated in 1965.

Mission

Oral Health...Our Priority is the mission of the West Virginia University School of Dentistry. This is accomplished by promoting a diverse and dynamic learning environment that addresses the present and future oral health needs of the citizens of West Virginia and beyond by providing an oral health center committed to excellence and innovation in education, research, patient care, service, and technology.

The WVU School of Dentistry offers degrees of doctor of dental surgery, master of science in dental specialties and bachelor of science in dental hygiene. The Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery offers a four-year residency program, a one-year internship, and a one-year general practice residency program. Programs leading to the master of science and doctor of philosophy degrees are available in the associated basic sciences, public health, and business. Continuing education courses for dentists and auxiliaries are offered throughout the year on a wide variety of oral health related topics.

Accreditation

All programs are accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association.

Administration

The dean is responsible for implementing the established policies of the School of Dentistry, the Health Sciences Center, and the University. The dean of the School of Dentistry reports to the vice president for Health Sciences.

Dental Clinic

Clinical training and experience constitute a major part of the curriculum for dental and dental hygiene students. Facilities for dental and dental hygiene students include over seventy-five treatment cubicles and all necessary related laboratories. Students treat their assigned patients under close supervision of faculty and receive practical experience while rendering services to thousands of patients annually.

Books and Instruments

Dental and dental hygiene students are required to obtain necessary textbooks for the scheduled courses and special instruments for use in the various laboratories and clinics. Lists of approved instruments and books will be provided at the time of registration, and these supplies will be made available through University services. Official authorization is essential in the purchase of all instruments and books used in dental courses. All dental students must maintain a library of required textbooks through graduation. Used instruments and equipment are not acceptable. A designated laptop computer must also be purchased prior to the first day of class.

Organizations

AMERICAN STUDENT DENTAL ASSOCIATION

Pre-doctoral and advanced education dental students are eligible to become members of the American Student Dental Association. Membership provides for student membership in the American Dental Association.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF DENTAL RESEARCH

All dental and auxiliary students, including advanced education students, are eligible to become student members of the American Association of Dental Research during the period of enrollment in the School of Dentistry.

AMERICAN DENTAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

All dental and auxiliary students, including advanced education students, are eligible to become student members of the American Dental Education Association during the period of enrollment in the School of Dentistry.

WVU SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

In a series of meetings held during May 1961, the first senior class of the School of Dentistry established the WVU School of Dentistry Alumni Association. The association promotes the educational program of the School of Dentistry. Full membership is extended to all graduates of the school, and associate memberships are available to others interested in the aims of the association.

OMICRON KAPPA UPSILON

On February 6, 1961, the Alpha Beta Chapter of Omicron Kappa Upsilon, national honorary dental society, was chartered at the School of Dentistry. Student membership is limited to twelve percent of each senior class. Candidates are from the academically superior twenty percent.

WVU SOD SPEA CHAPTER

The Student-Professionalism and Ethics Association in Dentistry is a national, student-driven association that was established to promote and support students' lifelong commitment to ethical behavior in order to benefit patients they serve and to further the dental profession. The national mission and objective of SPEA is to support students through ethics education resources, foster a positive environment for ethics communications and to promote awareness of ethics standards in dentistry.

DENTAL FRATERNITY

Chapter of Delta Sigma Delta International Dental Fraternity.

STUDENT AMERICAN DENTAL HYGIENISTS' ASSOCIATION

Dental hygiene students are eligible for membership in the official organization representing the dental hygiene profession.

SIGMA PHI ALPHA

The Alpha Xi chapter of the national dental hygiene honorary society, Sigma Phi Alpha, was established on March 19, 1968. Student membership is limited to ten percent of each graduating class. Candidates are selected on the basis of scholarship, character, and leadership potential as a dental hygienist.

WVU SOD SPEA CHAPTER

The Student and Professionalism and Ethics Association in Dentistry is a national, student-driven association that was established to promote and support students' lifelong commitment to ethical behavior in order to benefit the patients they serve and to further the dental profession. The objective of the association is to act as a support system for students in strengthening their personal and professional ethics values by providing a resource for ethics education and professional development.

ADMINISTRATION

DEAN

- Stephen Pachuta - D.D.S. (West Virginia University)

EXECUTIVE DEAN

- Valerie Perrine - D.D.S. (West Virginia University)
Education and Student Affairs

ASSOCIATE DEANS

- Jonathan Abraham - D.D.S. (West Virginia University)
Dental Admissions, Recruitment, and Access
- Tammy Chipps - D.D.S. (West Virginia University)
Clinical Affairs
- Gina Graziani - D.D.S., M.S., (University of California - SF)
Postdoctoral Affairs

CHAIRS

- Samuel O. Dorn - D.D.S. (Fairleigh Dickinson University)
Endodontics
- Lauren Godwin - D.D.S. (West Virginia University)
Restorative Dentistry
- Amy Funk - M.S.D.H. (West Virginia University)
Dental Hygiene
- Gina Graziani - D.D.S., M.S. (University of California-SF)

Pediatric Dentistry

- Peter Ngan - D.M.D. (Harvard)
Orthodontics
- Abdul Shakore, Arif Salman - B.D.S., M.D.S. - (The Tamil Nadu Dr. M.G.R. Medical University)
Periodontics
- Bryan Weaver - D.D.S., M.D. (West Virginia University)
- Constance Wiener - DMD
Dental Public Health and Professional Practice

PROGRAM DIRECTORS

- Shelby Alexander - D.D.S., M.S. (West Virginia University)
Prosthodontics
- Samuel Dorn - D.D.S, C.A.G.S. (Fairleigh Dickinson University)
Endodontics
- Khaled AlSharif - B.D.S., M.S. - (The Tamil Nadu Dr. M.G.R. Medical University)
Orthodontics
- Amy Funk - M.S.D.H. (West Virginia University)
Dental Hygiene
- Lauren Bakos - D.D.S. (West Virginia University)
General Practice Residency
- Dami Kim - DMD, PhD (University of Pittsburgh, West Virginia University)
Pediatric Dentistry
- Abdul Shakore, Arif Salman - B.D.S., M.D.S. (The Tamil Nadu Dr. M.G.R. Medical University)
Periodontics
- Bryan Weaver - D.D.S., M.D. (West Virginia University)
Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery

Accreditation

The following programs within the School of Dentistry have specialized accreditation through the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association.

- Dentistry
- Endodontics
- Orthodontics & Dentofacial Orthopedics
- Periodontics
- Prosthodontic
- General Practice Residency
- Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Residency
- Pediatrics