The Apollonian News

GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY School of Dentistry

October 2025

On behalf of the Dental Alumni Board, I am excited to share the second issue of *The Apollonian News*. My hope is that this newsletter helps you stay connected—both to the latest happenings at Georgetown and to one another through our shared experiences on the Hilltop.

As we enter the fall season, I encourage you to register for this year's Medical & Dental Reunion Weekend from Nov. 7-9. This special gathering will bring together dental and medical alumni for a weekend of social, intellectual, and celebratory programming. Highlights for dental alumni include Friday Afternoon Club, the School of Dentistry Special Collections Exhibit, and the Dental Alumni Awards & Legacy Celebration.

We hope you will consider returning to reconnect with classmates and celebrate 89 years of academic excellence at the School of Dentistry.

For any questions about the upcoming Medical & Dental Reunion 2025, please reach out to gumcengagement@georgetown.edu.

Hoya Saxa!

Thomas R. a'Becket, DDS (C'74, D'77)
Chair, Dental Alumni Board

MEDICAL & DENTAL REUNION 2025: NOV. 7-9

Registration is now open! Get ready to reconnect, reminisce, and celebrate with fellow dental alumni from across the decades. This fall, we'll return to the Hilltop alongside medical alumni for a weekend packed with social gatherings, special exhibits, and the Dental Alumni & Legacy Awards Celebration—all while honoring 89 years of academic excellence in dental education.

Online registration is open until 11:59 p.m. on Oct. 31. Onsite registration will also be available at Wagner Alumni House.

Register Today!

Highlights you won't want to miss:

School of Dentistry Special Collections Exhibit | Friday, Nov. 7 | 1-4 p.m.
Visit a special exhibit at the Booth Family Center for Special Collections, illustrating the profound historical impact of the School of Dentistry (1901–1990) and its alumni on Georgetown and the greater Washington, DC area. Browse through photographs, campus and national news articles, and first-hand accounts from past dental students, faculty, and university leadership. University archivalists will be available to answer questions and pull specific materials upon request, offering a unique opportunity to engage with Georgetown's rich history.

Friday Afternoon Club | Friday, Nov. 7 | 4-6 p.m.
Celebrate your return to the Hilltop in this long-standing and spirited tradition outside of the Medical-Dental Building. Reconnect with classmates over light bites, a glass of wine, or pint of beer (nonalcoholic options are available). *Priced event—walk-in tickets available.*

Dental Alumni Awards & Legacy Celebration | Saturday, Nov. 8 | 6-9 p.m.
Join your classmates and their guests for a celebration of the School of Dentistry's legacy and its and the indelible mark on the lives of dental alumni. The evening will commemorate 89 years of academic excellence in dental education, culminating in the conferment of two alumni awards: the Distinguished Service Award and the Gustav O. Kruger Award. The evening will include a cocktail hour followed by an elegant seated dinner. *Priced event—walk-in tickets available.*

DENTAL ALUMNI AWARDEES

Karen E. DeSimone, DDS (D'89)
Distinguished Service Award Recipient

Born at Georgetown University Hospital and temporarily lost on the maternity ward as a newborn, DeSimone found her way back to Georgetown for dental school! Prior to dental school she earned degrees in theater and biology at Brown University. As a dental student, DeSimone established Georgetown University's Chapter of the American Association of Women Dentists and was honored with the Miriam DiRisi Award for academic and Clinical Excellence. After Georgetown University School of Dentistry closed in 1990, she completed an orthodontic residency at Howard University Dental School.

DeSimone is a board-certified orthodontist at DeSimone Orthodontics in Pennington, NJ and has spent over 25 years as an attending for the orthodontic residency at Albert Einstein Medical Center in Philadelphia. Built upon her love of theater, biology, and board games, she created the game Dentalopoly—whose proceeds help support dental alumni events and the "So Others Might Eat" Dental Clinic and Food Pantry in DC, known to the many Georgetown Dental Alumni who completed student externships there. Some of her most rewarding accomplishments were creating a social media forum for Hoya dentists and serving as a member of Georgetown University's Dental Alumni Board.

DeSimone's parents met at Georgetown University Hospital, and she met her husband, Sean Bradley, there while he completed his oral surgery residency. They have four children, one of whom is now a medical student rotating through the same maternity ward at MedStar Georgetown University Hospital!

Douglas Smail, DDS (D'89)
Gustav O. Kruger Lifetime Achievement Award in Dentistry Recipient

Smail graduated from the Georgetown University School of Dentistry in 1989, and completed his Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery residency at Georgetown University Hospital in 1993. Since then, he has been practicing in the Albany, New York area.

Throughout his career, Dr. Smail has been actively involved in organized dentistry, holding numerous leadership positions within the American Dental Association (ADA) and the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons (AAOMS) at the local, state, and national levels. For over three decades, Smail has served as a Forensic Consultant to the New York State Police and various other law enforcement agencies, assisting in investigations and providing case testimonies.

He is committed to service at all levels, and has participated in medical-dental mission trips since his residency, including early efforts in the Philippines and the Dominican Republic. Smail has most recently returned to the Dominican Republic in August 2025 to continue providing care to underserved communities.

He has worked as a malpractice defense consultant and expert for more than 20 years. Since 2019, he has been a member of the Resident Faculty at Spear Education/CDOCS. Smail also holds a patent for a novel surgical bone reduction bur, which he actively helps market to improve surgical efficiency and outcomes.

Outside of his professional life, Smail has been married to Sabita Persad Smail (D'89), for 35 years, and together they have raised two grown sons.

GET INVOLVED

Share your story— celebrate our legacy

2025 marks **35 years** since the last class graduated from the School of Dentistry, and we are proud to celebrate 89 years of academic excellence in dental education. The legacy of our faculty, students, and alumni continue to shape Georgetown University today.

We invite you to reflect on what the School of Dentistry has meant in your life. Consider sharing:

- What your Georgetown education means to you
- A favorite memory from your time here
- A beloved tradition you still carry with you

The Dental Alumni Board is compiling stories and quotes across class years to celebrate our community's impact. We hope you'll add your voice as you learn more about this project in the coming months.

Participate in the Legacy Project

MEET THE 2026 DENTAL ALUMNI BOARD

We extend a warm welcome to our newest board members:

Steve Bakios, DDS (D'74, Parent'09, '12, '14, '17)
Clarence Lindquist, DDS (D'70)

Jocelyn Munns, DDS (D'90)

Thomas R. a'Becket, DDS (C'74, D'77), *Board Chair* | drsaint226@hotmail.com
Tom Borgia, DDS (D'76), *Incoming Chair* | tborgia@gmail.com
Theodore Burnett, DDS (D'88, Parent'24) | enamelman@aol.com
Emilio Canal Jr., DDS (D'90) | Drcanal@restondentist.com
Eric S. Cantor, DDS (D'90) | escantor@aol.com
Brendan M. Cooney, DDS (D'84, G'88) | bcooney@cooneyorthodontics.com
Karen E. Crowley, DDS (D'79), *Reunion Committee Chair* | karenc43@aol.com
Dorothy Cutolo-Zeterberg, DDS (D'88) | dorothycz@aol.com
Gael Delany, DDS (D'74, Parent'01, '03, '14), *DC Study Club Lead* | gaeldelany@gmail.com
Peter "Hakan" Durudogan, DDS (D'87), *Awards Committee Chair* | phakan@msn.com
Dennis Flanagan, DDS (D'71) | dffdds@comcast.net
Dante Gulino, DDS (D'90, M'97), *New England Study Club Lead* | drdantegulino@gmail.com
Richard B. Kahn, DDS (D'79) | runperio@aol.com
Alfred LaPorta, DDS (D'87), *New York Study Club Lead* | alpdds@alfredlaportadds.com
William A. MacDonnell, DDS (D'76) | william.macdonnell@gmail.com
John W. Martin III, DDS (D'87, Parent'25), *Nominations Committee Chair* | drm@martindentaloffice.com
Michael Messina, DDS (D'89) | drmessina@restondentist.com
Nancy O'Donoghue, DDS (D'79, Parent'96) | nancydds11@gmail.com
Martin Oishi, DDS (D'84, Parent'09, '11) | oishim@hawaii.edu
Joseph M. Rosenwald, DDS (D'82) | rosenwald1@comcast.net
Sabita Persad Smail, DDS (D'89) | sabitasmail@yahoo.com
Russell Tibbetts, DDS (D'79, Parent'06, '18, '21) | rjtde@aol.com

GIVING BACK

The Dr. Pasquale "Pat" Tigani Memorial Scholarship was established by the alumni of the School of Dentistry in memory of the first Dental Alumni Board president, Pat Tigani, DDS, (C'55, D'57). The scholarship is awarded to undergraduates who demonstrate financial need with preference given to students who are descendants of Georgetown Dental Alumni. If none, the scholarship is awarded to seniors interested in pursuing a career in health sciences. We greatly appreciate your consideration.

STAY IN TOUCH

To ensure you receive future university communications regarding Medical & Dental Reunion 2025 and other dental alumni news, please be sure to update your contact information here.

To learn more about the School of Dentistry Legacy, and ways to get involved, visit the School of Dentistry Alumni Website!

If you have any additional questions, please reach out to gumcengagement@georgetown.edu and a member of the professional team will get back to you within 24 hours.

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