



# EMERGE NEWSLETTER

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## 44<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL SNDA CONVENTION—ATLANTA, GA JULY 21-24, 2016

*Alexis Irby, D4 Tufts University, SNDA National President*

Greetings SNDA Leaders!



Thank you all for attending the 44<sup>th</sup> Annual SNDA Convention this past Summer in Atlanta, Georgia! The Executive Board and I thoroughly enjoyed meeting with you, hearing about your programs, your career paths, and even being able to now work with some of you on our newly elected Executive Board. What a way to start the new school year! While on the subject of the newly elected Executive Board, I have attached a list of members on the National Executive Board. Also, please visit our national website to meet our newest officers and to place names with faces. You will be hearing from some of us frequently throughout the year!

Let me take a moment to applaud all of you for your dedication to the organization, the community, and to your local SNDA chapters. The organization on a National level would not be able to thrive as it does without your participation. Thank you again! The 44<sup>th</sup> Annual SNDA Convention was a sheer success and here's how you've contributed:

- There were a total number of **228 SNDA registrants and 27 USNDA registrants**
- There were a total number of 189 SNDA student dentists in attendance, 44 IDID scholars, and 27 USNDA members in attendance. **A total of 260 students attended the conference!**
- There were a total number of **33 chapters** who paid national dues, and **15 USNDA chapters** who paid national dues.
- The Executive Board received **10 newly elected members** (including Regional Coordinators)

*Rites of Passage Ceremony & White Coat Photo*



I would say that all of the above depicts success, and the only direction to continue going is up! As you all may know, it is our goal to better serve you each year, and provide a number of resources for you all at each annual convention.

Throughout the year, members of the Executive Board takes your feedback into consideration about how we can do just that. If you haven't already, please complete the post-convention survey, found at the following link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DN6PW62> (link will also be sent out in an email for your convenience). Also throughout the year, we are working tirelessly to make improvements to the sessions and workshops scheduled during the annual convention. We would love for you all to have a role in helping provide attending student dentists and pre-dental students with the best information. We would also be quite appreciative if the depth of this information learned or discovered during conventions would be shared amongst the students and local SNDA chapters upon return to their home. Should you have any topics that you're interested to have covered in the future please do not hesitate to inform your Regional Coordinators, who will notify the members of the planning committee.

An additional role to be played by your Regional Coordinators is to integrate the existing chapters within respective regions prior to annual convention. This year, we are aspiring to have more local chapter participation on monthly conference calls across all nine regions. Your local connection to the Regional Coordinators and the Director of Regional Communications will be essential to your chapter remaining informed and aware of the plans in store for the year.

Again, student dentists, your commitment to SNDA both locally and nationally has not gone unnoticed. On behalf of the National Executive Board for SNDA I'd like to thank you for continuing to advance the organization one year at a time. We are looking forward to seeing many of you return to next year's national convention, as either returning members of SNDA or transitioning members into the NDA. Our 45th Annual Convention is scheduled to be held in Dallas, Texas July 19-24, 2017.

#### **2016-2017 National Executive Board Roster:**

- President: Alexis Irby, D4, Tufts University
- President-elect: De'Ja Alexander, D3, UNC Chapel Hill
- Vice President: Johnique Fonville, D4, East Carolina University
- Treasurer: Amadia Giles, D4, University of Mississippi
- Treasurer-elect: Shari Williams\*, D2, Columbia University
- Corresponding Secretary: Joshlyn Wilson\*, D4, Medical University of South Carolina
- Recording Secretary: Mark Abare\*, D2, University of Alabama
- Representative to the NDA House of Delegates: Alexa Lampkin, D4, University of Mississippi
- Director of Regional Communications: ArNelle R. Wright, D4, University of Florida
- Member-at-Large: Alexandria Fitzgerald, D3, University of Maryland
- Representative to the NDA Foundation: Bianca Adams, D2, East Carolina University
- Representative to the NDA Board of Trustees: Esther Oluwo, D4, Texas A&M Baylor
- Corporate Round Table 1: Clora Evans, D3, University of Mississippi
- Corporate Round Table 2: Jiman Nelson\*, D3, University of Mississippi
- Corporate Round Table 3: Stephen Cross\*, D4, University of Maryland
- Regional Coordinators:
  - Region 1: Unfilled position
  - Region 2: Ann Lin, D3, University of Pittsburgh
  - Region 3: Terrence Campbell, D4, East Carolina University
  - Region 4: Kiah Henry\*, D3, University of Illinois @ Chicago
  - Region 5: Javen Durham\*, D3, Meharry University
  - Region 6: Dele Agabe, D4, Creighton University
  - Region 7: Ken Nwankwo\*, D4 Texas A & M Baylor
  - Region 8: Unfilled position
  - Region 9: Unfilled position

*Alexis Irby*

SNDA President 2016-2017

**2<sup>ND</sup>  
ANNUAL  
SNDA  
SERVICE  
PROJECT:  
HOLIDAY  
CANNED  
FOOD  
DRIVE**



Greetings SNDA!

We are happy to report the results for the 2<sup>nd</sup>- Annual SNDA Holiday Service Project: Canned Food Drive. This year we were able to provide more than three times the amount of canned goods in comparison to last year, that is over 3,000 goods were provided to families in need! Thank you to all of the 12 chapters who participated: MUSC, University of Detroit Mercy, UNC, Meharry Medical College, East Carolina University, Texas A & M Baylor, University of Maryland, University of Minnesota, University of Michigan, University of Mississippi, UCLA, and Howard University. Special thanks to East Carolina University who took 3<sup>rd</sup> place, Meharry Medical College who took 2<sup>nd</sup> place and to Howard University who took FIRST PLACE! Great job to everyone and we can't wait for your participation in our spring semester national program!

Warm Regards,

Johnique Fonville and ArNelle Wright  
Committee Co-Chairs

## COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

By: Cheryn Amo-Adjei



- A.** A group working together at our 1<sup>st</sup> “Anatomy Lovers” Mock Practical of the semester.
- B.** Students volunteering to help table for the World AIDS Day Bake Sale where all proceeds will go to a local HIV/AIDS clinic.
- C.** Students focusing on identifying a structure at our 2<sup>nd</sup> “Anatomy Lovers” Mock Practical of the semester.
- D.** SNDA members, new and old, come together at our Welcome Back Mixer early this Fall Semester.
- E.** Members of the 2016-2017 Columbia SNDA Chapter pose for a quick picture after our first General Body Meeting.
- F.** Another group working hard to identify the image on the MRI during our 2<sup>nd</sup> “Anatomy Lovers” Mock Practical.
- G.** A faculty member examining the oral cavity of a senior at “Elder Smile”, a recurring volunteer program in a local senior center.

## THE UNIVERSITY OF DETROIT MERCY

By: Tatum Miles

The University of Detroit Mercy chapter of SNDA has been off to a great start this school year and we would like to share some of our highlights. Our chapter has truly been committed to improving increasing oral health care knowledge throughout Detroit and the metropolitan area. Throughout the fall semester we have been involved in multiple community service events and have orchestrated a couple of donation drives in efforts to help those in need nationwide. We began the school year with our involvement in two community health organization fairs. For the third consecutive year, we have been a participant in a local community health organization fair hosted by Councilman Spivey, The Health Department and Doors of Success Foundation



entitled "Blessings in a Book Bag". In addition to "Blessings in a Book Bag", we were invited to host a table at the 6th Annual Health and Resource Fun Fair 2016 in Flint, Michigan hosted by The Way of Holiness C.O.G.I.C and Hands that Heal C.D.C.. At these events we were able to distribute dental supplies to children and interact with families while educating them with oral hygiene instructions. September proved to be a

very eventful month. Following the community fairs, we held a toiletry drive for the families in Louisiana affected by the devastating flood which resulted in the damage of over 40,000 homes. We finished the month with our Annual SNDA/SNDA Detroit Mercy Welcome Back Picnic in which we bonded over food and fun with generations of SNDA/SNDHA members. In October, we held a successful bake sale, welcomed new members and made our annual appearance at Safety Street passing out tooth brushes and toothpaste in a safe environment for trick or treaters! Currently, we are collecting coats,



hats and mittens for our Winter Clothing Drive to donate to local homeless shelters in our efforts to provide the less fortunate with proper winter attire. We are extremely grateful for the individuals at Detroit Mercy who because they have been generously supported and donated a great deal to our drives.

Aside from service, we held our First Annual Brother's Brunch. The objective of the Brother's Brunch was to bring the men of SNDA together with local professionals for fellowship and discussion. Matriculation through dental school is difficult. We wanted the men of SNDA to have an outlet, and to know that they have support and are not alone. There was a good turnout for the event and we plan to make it even better next year! As we bring

the semester to a close, we will be concluding our events with "Friendsgiving" as a way for SNDA and SNDHA members to gather and socialize as a dental school family. Next semester we have so much more in store! Just to name a few, we have amazing events lined up such as our Annual Ladies High Tea, Lessons in a Lunch Box, Mission trip to Montego Bay, Jamaica and our highlight event Taste of Diversity! We hope to continue to make a difference, improve oral health care awareness and remain a support system for underrepresented minorities in the field of dentistry!



*University of Detroit Mercy (continued from previous page)*

servant leader. Therefore, when SNDA hosted Impressions Day at Creighton University, I took the opportunity to give the undergraduate students a positive perspective about dental school, and warned them to be prepared to work hard. I even told them about my less than ideal journey into dental school because I wanted to make sure that they remained encouraged on their journey and to learn from my mistakes.

There are many times that I think about my current circumstances, and I never would have thought that I would be living in Omaha, Nebraska. However, when you pursue a dream, you will follow it wherever it takes you. So as I continue to embark on this life journey, I embody the strength of my late grandmothers who were living testimonies of what faith and hard work can do. Nothing will stand in my way of success. My passion for dentistry and its ability to transform patient's lives will continually motivate me after I graduate from dental school.

## MARQUETTE UNIVERSITY

**By:** Ebony Robinson

Top Row: Our organization sells Sim Lab survival kits to the incoming class during Orientation. The Kits are a place to store the little things we get during instrument distribution as well as a smaller box to store their teeth for projects and practical exams. It helps save space and helps to keep you organized so that you don't lose the smaller things we get.

Middle row: We host a mini tournament style game called Clinic Wars. Every Clinic is assigned a color and then all the students in each clinic sign up to participate in challenges (basketball, relay races, pie eating contest, and more) to earn points for their clinic. The clinic with the most points at the end of the night is declared the winner. On the right side of the picture we have our winning Clinic and the reigning champions, Clinic D. On the left side we have some of our participants from each clinic!

Bottom row: We host a Women to Women brunch in the Fall. It is a time for women doctors and women student doctors to come together and share in the vast knowledge about women in the field of dentistry. We discuss challenges and triumphs facing both the female Doctors and the female student doctors. This year we had six Doctors come out to share with us, including two Residents in programs here at Marquette. It is great way to get mentoring established and a great way to network.



## MUSC SNDA GIVES BACK THROUGH THE HEAD START PROGRAM

By: Chelsie Cassell & Brandi Rollins



Members of the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC) chapter of the Student National Dental Association (SNDA) have been working with Charleston County School District Head Start to provide free dental screenings to children enrolled in the Head Start program. Head Start prepares children of low-income families for success by providing school setting learning opportunities to children from birth until they start school. The program includes access to dental, health, nutrition, mental health, disability, and family support services.

Senior and junior SNDA members have been encouraged to get involved with the screenings. During our time with the Head Start

students, we provided dental screenings to 200+ students and reinforced oral hygiene instructions. Our chapter thanks the Head Start families, Charleston County staff, and our dental team for making the Head Start screenings a successful effort. MUSC SNDA plans to continue to do screenings with Head Start schools in the Charleston community in the near future.

**Pictured:** MUSC SNDA's President, Brandi Rollins, speaking with a young student about how to maintain a healthy smile.

## UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND SNDA WEEK OF SERVICE



On the Week of **September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2016**, The University of Maryland School of Dentistry Baltimore SNDA Chapter, launched our **Week of Service!** Located at the heart of Baltimore city, SNDA UMB interacts with residents whom live below the poverty line, are unemployed and have some of the highest incidences of untreated caries in the state. Recognizing this, our chapter reserved a week to use its manpower, resources, and time to serve those around us. We worked with local schools and participated in some of the largest community fairs offered in the area. Our goal, was to first, provide children with the necessary oral hygiene items before they headed back to school. With over 100 schools in Baltimore city alone, SNDA UMB has recognized the barriers to providing dental care in this area. At the start of the week, members provided Oral hygiene instructions, toothbrushes, toothpaste, stickers and pamphlets to

students at Federal Hill

Washington Elementary School. Towards the end of the week, the Maryland Academy of Pediatric dentists to provide to kids and oral cancer screenings for adults at the Memorial. Many attendees were referred to the UMB dental clinic for. Lastly, we participated in the Lexington Market CommUNITY largest health fairs in the city, where students performed oral hygiene instructions, toothbrushes, toothpaste and pamphlets to fair attendees. UMB was able to serve nearly 500 residents of Baltimore over the course of one week!



Prep and George

SNDA teamed up with intraoral screenings at the Baptist Health Fair. comprehensive care. Festival, one of the cancer screenings, oral attendees. In total, SNDA

**RUTGERS SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE****By:** Michael Israel

# SNDA Updates: Farewell to Dr. Hall Dinner, Three Doctors Foundation Mentor Day, and Oral Cancer Walk

November 1, 2016

**By:** Michael Israel

On Friday, September 16<sup>th</sup>, members of the Student National Dental Association came together at Chez Dubois Caribbean Fine Dining and Catering for our annual Welcome Back Dinner. Traditionally this dinner celebrates the return of existing members and welcomes in new members. This year, however, our dinner also served as a farewell to one of our most cherished faculty members, Dr. Alexander Hall. Dr. Hall has been an instrumental figure here at Rutgers School of Dental Medicine, and we know he'll be just as greatly appreciated by the inaugural class of the brand-new Touro College of Dental Medicine. We had a great turnout – bringing together current students, recent and long-time graduates, and faculty members. At the end of the evening, Dr. Hall was presented with a plaque symbolizing our gratitude for his dedication to our organization, and he delivered an uplifting and motivating speech to usher in the new academic year.



Group photo of SNDA members who attended Dr. Hall's Farewell Dinner.



Group photo of SNDA and HSDA members with Dr. George Jenkins and Dr. Samson Davis, of the Three Doctors Foundation, on Mentor Day.

On Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, SNDA members partnered with HSDA to participate in the Mentor Day Program at Franklin L. Williams Middle School. This career enrichment program, sponsored by the Three Doctors Foundation, was designed to provide middle and high school students with the opportunity to interact with a variety of professionals. Mentees shared their aspirations for the future and asked questions about how they could bring those dreams to fruition. Our mentors shared both details of their own journeys as well as tips to prepare these students for their desired career paths.

On Sunday, September 18<sup>th</sup>, SNDA members participated in the 9<sup>th</sup> annual Oral Cancer Walk. This event was held to



Group photo of participants in the Oral Cancer Walk.

raise money and to boost awareness of oral cancer in memory of David Nasto. The event featured oral cancer screenings, informational tables, live music, raffles, a photo booth and a barbecue feast. Despite the heavy rainfall, we all completed the 4.1 mile walk/run with smiles on our faces. The turnout was tremendous, and we're planning to make it even bigger next year!

## UCLA

By: Delano Hankins



Pictured to the left our annual SNDA Welcome Dinner. This dinner was held in order to introduce the new members of SNDA as well as bond as a group. We had ice breaker games in order to get everybody comfortable with each other. Soul food was catered by Mots and Bets restaurant in Los Angeles, California.

Attached below is a picture of our event titled "What's Next?" The discussion dealt with the post-election feelings and concerns of members of SNDA and the faculty here at UCLA. We discussed the significance of the results of the election and its impact on minorities in America. We had a great turnout and it was amazing to see people of different ethnic backgrounds have similar views on the issues of America as a whole.



Attached below is a picture of our Diversity Fair. Listed in the picture from left to right are: Hilary Tate (co President), Wayne Gonzales (co Vice President), Delano Hankins (co President), Lidya Jirjis (co Vice President). We used this event as an opportunity to collaborate with other diverse/ ethnic organizations here at UCLA. Groups like the Chinese Dental School Association, Hispanic Dental School Association, were some of the many organizations that we collaborated with on the event. Every organization had a poster with the name of their organization like the one you see behind the four of us in the picture. This created an organized environment for the students of UCLA School of Dentistry to go up to the organizations they were interested in and finding out more about them. We were playing music as well as provided cookies for students that came to our section.

Lastly, attached below is a picture of our annual informational session held in early October. We sent out emails inviting the student body of UCLA School of Dentistry to learn more about SNDA. We explained that our purpose was to help as well as support the academic and communal environment of minority students in the field of dentistry. Our upcoming events were also discussed in the informational session. We decided to show our gratitude for the students that came to the informational session by providing them with free In N Out burgers.



## HOWARD COLLEGE OF DENTISTRY 2ND ANNUAL SNDA WELCOME WEEK

By: Alexis Gilliam

Howard University College of Dentistry's chapter of SNDA organized its 2nd Annual SNDA Welcome Week, which featured activities for dental students, dental hygiene students, post-doctoral residents and support staff from Monday, October 3rd to Friday, October 7th. The SNDA E-board hosted lunch & learns, general body meetings, forums, social events and panel discussions aimed to inform the student body about the various opportunities available within dentistry, preparation for residency interviews and networking.

On Monday, October 3rd, the chapter hosted a general body meeting to kick off the week! The E-board used this opportunity to introduce new and returning students to the SNDA E-board, learn more about the HUCD chapter of SNDA and their future events and programs. On Tuesday, October 4th, the chapter hosted a bowling night social event. SNDA members competed in friendly games of bowling and enjoyed Tuesday night specials!

On Wednesday, October 5th, the chapter held a Mission Trip/Externship Forum presenting students with various opportunities throughout the country to gain additional clinical experience outside the College of Dentistry and how to access them. The E-board also organized a panel discussion entitled "Preparing for Residency", on Thursday, October 6th. The panelists explained the "do's and don'ts" of interview etiquette and tips on how to conduct a successful interview.

HUCD's chapter closed out the 2nd Annual SNDA Week with a special SNDA Cares Event. E-board members showed their appreciation to the support staff of HUCD by serving them a continental breakfast, which brought an end to our exceptional week!



**ELIZABETH FADOJU REPRESENTS COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY WELL!**

# InProfile

STUDENTS AT THE COLLEGE  
OF DENTAL MEDICINE

## Elizabeth Fadoju'17: Inspired by Great Educators, She Pursues Dual Dentistry, Education Degrees

**E**lizabeth Fadoju'17 knows exactly what a difference one individual can make in sparking and encouraging a young person's career interests.

In Ms. Fadoju's case, it started with her mom. Mrs. Fadoju began her own career as a midwife in Lagos, Nigeria, before eventually moving to Baltimore, Md., with 4-year-old Elizabeth and the rest of their family. There, Mrs. Fadoju earned her nursing degree and encouraged her daughter to become a physician.

Ms. Fadoju grew up to earn a scholarship to the University of Maryland at College Park, but it was not easy meeting the scholarship's minimum GPA requirement while pursuing a pre-med degree. In her first year, she experienced moments of deep discouragement.

"As a freshman, I had to take organic chemistry, the big, bad wolf!" she says. Her GPA took a hit, and she started second-guessing her academic choices. But Mrs. Fadoju, as well as a professor at Maryland, encouraged Ms. Fadoju to keep going.

That same year, Ms. Fadoju attended the Summer Medical and Dental Education Program at Columbia, the six-week residential program for first- and second-year college students interested in medicine and dentistry. There, she discovered the innovations taking place in dental medicine at Columbia. She was awestruck by experiences like the lectures Candice Zemnick, DMD, associate professor of dental medicine, gave on the use of maxillofacial prosthetics to fabricate new eyes and noses for people who suffer traumas from cancer.

"I was overwhelmed with the possibilities that the field offered, by the impact I might make as a health provider, and the opportunities that an education from Columbia would provide," says Ms. Fadoju.

She also met Dennis Mitchell, DDS, associate professor of dental medicine and senior associate dean for diversity (and now also Columbia vice provost for faculty diversity). Dr. Mitchell took notice of Ms. Fadoju's growing curiosity in dental medicine and encouraged her to persevere in her undergraduate studies.

She finished at Maryland, earning a BS degree in general biology with a minor in Spanish language and culture. She credits her summer at Columbia for her decision to pursue dental medicine as a career.



JOSIAH MEYER

"The day I found out I got accepted into the DDS program at Columbia was, as corny as it sounds, truly a dream come true after many ups and downs in undergrad," Ms. Fadoju says. "Dental school is dental school, but the people at Columbia make up a diverse amalgam (dentistry pun intended) of unique, genuine, and beyond-talented individuals."

Now well into her studies at the College of Dental Medicine, Ms. Fadoju is more focused than ever on pursuing her career. A U.S. Navy Health Professions Scholar, she also is pursuing a dual degree at Teachers College.

"My life might have turned out a lot differently had it not been for educators, so I'm incorporating that degree into my studies and ideas for work as a professional," Ms. Fadoju says. "It's my own affirmation of a key principle at Teachers College: Great educators push students to believe that success is both possible and expected."

*This was adapted from a profile originally published on the Columbia Review.*

## COREY BLACK REPRESENTS UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURG VERY WELL!

### FIRST STUDENT GRADUATES WITH CERTIFICATE IN DENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH

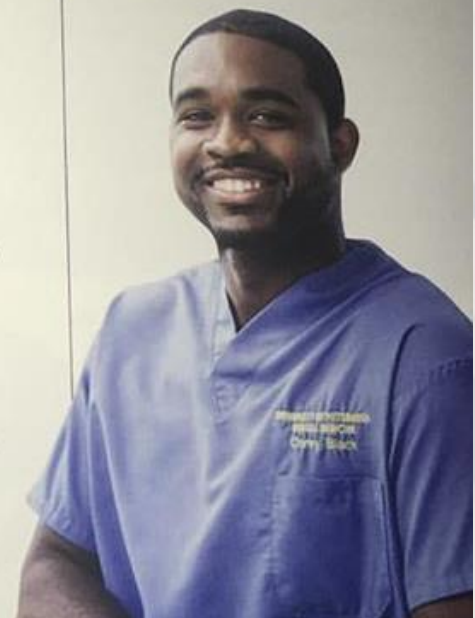
Mr. Corey Black (Class of 2016) will be the first dental student at the School of Dental Medicine to graduate with a certificate in Dental Public Health. The certificate program, new last year, reinforces the commitment the School of Dental Medicine has made to improving the health of the community in the Commonwealth. In order to earn his certificate, Mr. Black completed a fellowship at the Birmingham Clinic, a local, outpatient care facility that provides free and reduced cost health care to the public. Interestingly, Mr. Black's focus at the clinic was not providing dental care, rather, he was part of a network of university students who worked with patients to provide non-health-related resources such as translation, housing, and support in using various governmental agencies.

Central Pennsylvania native, Mr. Black recalls how his upbringing in a low-income, single-parent home greatly impacted him in a positive way. He credits much of his family's success to the community support services that were available to them.

His youth also influenced his choice of career; "I really feel that I can give back the most by being a dentist." He said. His experiences in the Birmingham Clinic certainly have prepared him for being able to address his patients' concerns and needs beyond providing them with quality dental care. After graduation in May, 2017, Mr. Black plans to continue his involvement in providing dental care to the community. He adds, "I would like to, one day, pursue a master's degree in public health, and possibly work at a dental public health facility."

A little over a year old, the Certificate in Dental Public Health Program has given him many opportunities to reaffirm his dedication to serving those in need. Currently, about a dozen students in the Class of 2020 are interested in the certificate program. The program accepts students who are in good academic standing and meet specific program requirements. More information about the Certificate in Dental Public Health Program may be found at [dental.pitt.edu/joint-degree-dph-certificate-dph](http://dental.pitt.edu/joint-degree-dph-certificate-dph).

**"A course at the Graduate School of Public Health taught me the importance of understanding patients to effectively communicate with them and the idea of health literacy, which is recognizing that a patient's age does not always reflect their ability to understand concepts in health care. From this I now better understand how to recognize when someone may be having difficulty completing paperwork, comprehending instructions, or understanding specific medical terms."**



## CONGRATULATIONS ARE IN ORDER!!

The SNDA National Eboard would like to send our sincerest excitement to all of the students who recently matched their respective post-graduate programs! We understand that this must be an amazing feeling, and we'd like you to know that you have our support, and we are rooting for you from various regions in the country. Keep up the great work you guys! The only direction from here is up!!

**UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA****By:** Undine Davis

This semester, members of the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Dentistry's Chapter of SNDA had the opportunity to participate in several great programs serving our student body and community. Among our highlights are, "Flash Back Friday" Roller Skate Fundraiser, "Wax and Relax," "Take Your Child to the Doctor Day," and "Brush, Don't Rush."

Our "Flash Back Friday" roller skate party was our first major fundraising event of the school year. Students, along with their family and friends, took a small break from studying and enjoyed an evening of fun as they came decked out in costumes inspired by their favorite decades. A blur of bell-bottoms, big hair, tie-dye and neon colors whirled around the rink. There was a prize for best costume. Overall, the fundraiser was a success and a great event we look forward to holding again next year.



Fall also included our first annual "Wax and Relax" workshop. This free workshop was offered to the

entire first year class. The aim of Wax and Relax was to provide the students a

stress-free environment in which to practice and learn some helpful waxing techniques for their upcoming practical exam. Students enjoyed a catered meal and music while working closely with prosthodontics residents and our D2 and D3 SNDA volunteers. In addition to our social events, many of our UAB SNDA members had the opportunity to volunteer in our local community. This semester, the Birmingham YMCA, in conjunction with the City of Birmingham agency, teamed up with community health care professionals to hold their annual "Take Your Child to the Doctor Day." This health fair provided over 300 children free health screenings. UAB SNDA members provided dental screenings and interactive oral hygiene demonstrations.



Our outreach efforts also include visiting local elementary and high schools. This fall, UAB SNDA members visited a local elementary school in Birmingham to speak with 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders about proper oral hygiene. Our presentation titled "Brush, Don't Rush" explained the importance of proper brushing and flossing as well as the impact diet has on oral health. The program was designed to engage the students and included interactive activities, Q&A and prizes.

Keeping SNDA's mission in mind, our chapter will continue to make great strides in supporting our student body, our members and our community. This fall, we've hit the ground running and we look forward to our Spring Programs Lessons in a Lunchbox and Impressions.

**More photos from UAB  
SNDA**



## UNIVERSITY OF LOUISVILLE

By: Kamani Meriwether

### Black Achievers Fellowship




Greetings SNDA family! UofL SNDA chapter spent a Saturday afternoon with the students of the Black Achievers Program, exposing them to minority students in a health professions field. Students from various high schools around the Louisville community came together in fellowship with pursuit of higher educations as our main focus. We assisted students in taking finger impressions to get brief exposure to some of the material dentists handle on a daily basis. There was also a small panel held for the students to ask us questions about our journeys into the dental profession and the possibilities available to their young minds. We gave advice on the various pathways of pursuing a collegiate education and post-graduate education, as well as life advice in general. University of Louisville School of Dentistry SNDA chapter has paired up on multiple occasions with the driven students of the Black Achievers program, and we will continue to be a contributing force to the growth of these amazing students!

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## THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY

By: Keyachtta Hawkins



**UNC SNDA Haiti Relief Project**

**Haiti was deeply affected by Hurricane Matthew, with over 800 lives lost.**

Please join UNC SNDA in collecting items for Haiti!

**When:** Until Thursday, October 13th  
**Where:** Donation box in the Atrium of UNC Dental School

We will also be doing donation pick-ups around the community. If interested in a donation pick-up, please contact Keyachtta Hawkins or Heather Newman. Contact information is provided below.

**Suggested items to donate:**  
 Non-perishable foods, all hygiene products, wipes, hand sanitizer, cleaning supplies, mosquito repellent, mosquito nets, sun screen, and Damp-Rid.

Monetary donations are also welcome through the organization Partners in Health, which is accessible through the link below.

**Let's keep Haiti in our hearts. Thank you for your support!**

<https://donate.pih.org/page/contribute/hurricane-matthew?subsource=hurricanehb>

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

<b>Keyachtta Hawkins</b>	kchawkins@email.unc.edu
<b>Heather Newman</b>	hnewman@email.unc.edu

As many of you know, Hurricane Matthew swept through the Caribbean and part of the US, destroying homes and killing hundreds of people. In Haiti alone, it's been reported that over 1,000 people lost their lives in connection to this hurricane. Understandably, Haiti is in need of a tremendous amount of resources and our SNDA chapter decided to help Haitians get through what continues to be difficult times by hosting a *Haiti Relief Donation Project*.

For one week, we set up a table to collect items such as non-



perishable foods, hygiene products, mosquito repellent, cleaning supplies, and many other items. We also collected monetary donations for Partners in Health, a global health organization that works to improve the health of poor and marginalized people in the world. To that end, we're happy to report that we were able to securely send all collected donations to the people of Haiti!



**Vote and Post a Selfie! | Student National Dental Association**  
 uncsnda.com

This 2016 general election was one of the most important elections in our lifetime. So, it was not surprising that it played out on a variety of social media platforms where people voiced their positions on several issues. As a way to capture some of that energy, our chapter developed a new initiative called *"VOTE and POST"*. During this initiative, we asked our Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and Snapchat followers to vote and post a selfie as a way to encourage people to vote! We also provided our members with early voting dates and requirements for voting, as well as information on how to find their voting sites.

*UNC SNDA CAARE Clinic* wins the Deah Barakat and Yusor Abu-Salha Memorial Award in the amount of \$1,350. The UNC SNDA CAARE Clinic is a free dental

clinic in Durham, NC that was started by the UNC Chapter of SNDA in the fall of 2012. Our clinic runs solely on donations. Various extractions, fillings, and cleanings are provided 4 times a month. To date, we have provided over \$60,000 in free dental care.



*(UNC article continued from previous page)*

In addition to our new initiatives, we also held our annual SNDA events:

Lessons in a Lunchbox - September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2016, Wax and Relax- October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Fall Impressions Program - October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Turn that Crown Upside Down- October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Friendsgiving- November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2016



## MEHARRY MEDICAL COLLEGE

By: J. Rechelle Jackson



On October 15<sup>th</sup> the Meharry Medical College Chapter of SNDA collaborated with other organizations on campus to host the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Community Day. More than 300 people were present for this day-long event promoting health and wellness in the community. President Elect Miche' Richards, D3 coordinated the event and roughly 30 organizations around campus and other business around Nashville provided services and information to the surrounding community. Meharry is located in north Nashville, which is also home to Fisk University and Tennessee State University. These neighborhoods house low- income citizens and persons who are not easily afforded access to healthcare.

Some events included health screenings, HIV testing, oral cancer screenings, and many activities for children. This year SNDA provided literature on gum disease, overall oral hygiene for children, the dangers of smoking, and oral cancer. In addition, we provided a station for children to simulate doing an extraction

with a Play-Doh replica of the mouth. Other stations included health related drawings, dress like a doctor, and hopscotch. Popcorn, water, and other treats were served for the participants. We are already excited and in the process of gearing up for next year's event; we expect an even greater turn out.

*Pictured above: President Ryan Graham, D4 prepares popcorn to hand out to the participants, Sasha Curry, D2 helps a child "extract" a tooth, and one of the participants in the "Dress up Like a Doctor" event.*

*Meharry Medical College article continued*

Happy Healthy Halloween is annual event held on Halloween night for children of the surrounding Nashville community. In an effort to provide a safe and fun environment, various clubs and organizations from all three schools at Meharry pick a theme and event for children to participate in. The purpose of this event is to encourage children to make healthy life choices i.e. brushing their teeth, eating healthy snacks and remaining active, while also providing a place other than the streets for them to enjoy Halloween festivities.

This year Meharry's SNDA choose a Disney theme and provided popcorn, Rice Krispy Treats, and goody bags filled with toothpaste, toothbrushes, and floss. Children who stopped by our booth were able to participate in a pumpkin relay race and were rewarded in the end. About 100 children were present for the event and about 20 campus wide organizations participated. The children who were present were excited about their goody bags and did not realize they were being taught a valuable lesson amidst all the fun they were having.

*Picture below: Meharry E-Board Members: Candace Marshall, D3, Ryan Graham, D4, Aisha Henry, D2, J.Rechelle Jackson, D3, SNDA Historian Candace Marshall, D3 in her Disney themed apparel, and children participating in the Pumpkin relay race.*



## UNIVERSITY OF THE PACIFIC ARTHUR A. DUGONI DENTAL SCHOOL

### The Journey to Promoting Diversity in Dentistry

Dean Nadershashi from the University of the Pacific Arthur A. Dugoni Dental School, approached us with a vision and a personal goal of increasing diversity, both among students and faculty alike. After attending the ADEA Student Diversity Leadership Conference, it became evident that one of the ways to help move forward this goal that we shared, was to charter a Pacific SNDA chapter. After 9 months of planning, attending numerous meetings, and giving numerous presentations to the student body and administration, our Pacific SNDA chapter is up and running. Our journey included attending SNDA's National Convention where we had the opportunity to meet USNDA, SNDA, and NDA members from around the country. It was a blessing to feel welcomed with open arms by everyone, in particular the UCLA and UCSF chapters who reside in our home state. With mentorship from all of those we met, we have made progress with our small Pacific SNDA chapter.



### SNDA Convention 2016 (image above)

UCLA, UCSF, and UOP SNDA chapter members along with our mentor, Dr. Edmond Hewlett, Associate Dean of Outreach and Diversity at UCLA.

### Dean's Brown bag Lunch Presentations

Upon our return from the SNDA Conference, Ashley Soliman and I were eager to charter our Pacific SNDA chapter and spread the word of SNDA's objectives. With the support of Dean Nadershashi, we presented to each dental class during the Dean's Brown Bag Lunch regarding the current representation of under-represented minorities (URM) in dental schools across the country (only 16% of all dental students!), and why it's imperative we promote cultural competency as well as strive to expose more URM to a career in dentistry. The support we have received from faculty, staff, and the student body is exciting. We hope to continue growing interest in our Pacific SNDA chapter in order to continue promoting, aiding, and supporting the academic and social environment of minority students.

**SNDA Dean's Lunch Presentation (right image)**

Juan Ramirez (Spanish Club Director, DDS 2019), Jennifer Villalta (President, DDS 2017), and Ashley Soliman (Vice-President, DDS 2018) presenting to the first-year dental students about SNDA, its objectives, and how they can become members.

**SNDA Dean's Lunch Presentation (image below)**

The Pacific SNDA Team: William Keeton (Educational Chair, DDS 2018), Al Buniang (Delegate, DDS 2017), Samantha Balasubramanian (Community Service Chair, DDS 2017), Ashley Soliman (Vice-President, DDS 2018), Dean Nader Nadershahi, Jennifer Villalta (President, DDS 2017), Melyssa Astorga (Historian, DDS 2017), and Kristoff Samm (Treasurer, DDS 2018) after our first SNDA Dean's Brown Bag Lunch presentation to the second-year dental students.

**UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY COLLEGE OF DENTISTRY**

On October 8<sup>th</sup>, UKCD SNDA members participated in the Black Achievers Program's Annual College and Career Fair at Transylvania University in Lexington, Kentucky. This program, which is run by the YMCA of Central Kentucky, seeks to motivate and prepare youth to set and achieve high education and career goals. They also develop participants' leadership skills through mentoring and programming. We spoke with nearly 60 middle and high school students and parents, introducing them to a career in dentistry and life as a dental student at UKCD! We met several students who were interested in healthcare careers and who asked great questions about what exactly we do as dentists! We also met students who were interested in other career paths but were still intrigued by our hands-on exhibit. The most rewarding part was seeing their excitement and interest grow as they handled the Dentoform, casts, plastic teeth with provisionals, and dentures. We hope to participate in the annual fair again so that we can continue serving as

positive role models to local youth.



*Pictured: (Left to right) Whitney White, '18, Jahne Bristow, '17, Adrian Wilson, '20*

## TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF DENTISTRY (TAMUCOD)

By: Renita Cox

### SNDA Alumnae Host Community Dental Day

Typically, the doors to Smith Family Dental stay closed on Saturday mornings. However, on November 5<sup>th</sup> 2016, the dentists, full staff and volunteers were there bright and early with a full roster of patients to see. Drs. Carmen Smith and Ashley Smith decided to host a Community Dental Day, which provided free oral screenings, cleanings, sealants, extractions and fillings to anyone visiting their waiting room. As two former Student National Dental Association members, the doctors turned to the organization to help them with this day of service. SNDA members were more than



happy to help. Two first year and four third year SNDA members helped by collecting medical history, taking vitals, assisting with procedures, and making the patients feel comfortable as well as welcomed. Upon completion of treatment, patients left with oral hygiene bags, and a greater knowledge of their dental needs. Community Dental Day was a success with over 20 patients receiving treatment by the doctors and hygienists of the practice. The patients who were seen that day were all so thankful for the generosity of the doctors and staff at this practice. TAMUCOD SNDA is so proud of our alumnae who continue to breakdown barriers to dental care.

## EAST CAROLINA UNIVERSITY

By: Terrence Campbell



### ***Making the Connection: Diabetes and Oral Health (left)***

Volunteering at the Pitt County Health Department, ECU SNDA teaches local residents with diabetes how to best care for their oral health with respect to their disease.

Be sure to check out all of our events and past events at our website:

<http://ecusnda.wixsite.com/ecu-snda>

### ***Happy Friendsgiving (right)***

Every year ECU SNDA and SNMA come together for a great fall networking event to socialize, relax, and take a break from the stresses of medical and dental school. It is important that we stick together and support each other through such rigorous course work; it always helps to know someone else understands the struggle!



*East Carolina University article continued*



**What White Coats Look Like! (left)**

Today our SNDA members in the Class of 2019 received their White Coats. This ceremony represents a pivotal moment in the D2 curriculum in which our students prepare to transition from their preclinical courses to their first clinical experiences. Congrats to the Class of 2019 SNDA Members!!

**SNDA Gives Back with Food (right)**

Every year ECU SNDA gives back to the local communities by spending time at the local food bank to organize and sort food for those in need. This has become a staple in the ECU SNDA community service duties and a very enjoyable experience in giving!



**Just Grab Some Wax, and Relax! (left)**

Every year, ECU SNDA hosts its signature "Wax and Relax" program to help 1st year dental students with their waxing pre-clinical skills. This is one of the many benefits SNDA members are privy to, as one of the main pillars of SNDA is student support.

**Passport to Oral Health (right)**

Starting off the year with community service, ECU SNDA volunteers at a local Boys & Girls club by educating the youth in proper oral hygiene practices, eating healthy snacks, and providing dental screenings.



**SNDA Members Participate in Brody School of Medicine Research Day (right)**

Student Drs. Precious Boston and Omar Glover begin their D1 year with excellence, presenting at this annual event. They will also present at the ECU SoDM Research Day on August 22. Please see the school's website for more information.

**Welcome Class of 2020! (left)**

This year we gained 52 new North Carolina dental students! Approximately 20% of the class is composed of underrepresented minorities, continuing to uphold the mission of ECU SoDM to create dentists that will serve the underserved.



**UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA****By:** Hannah Afwerke

This is the inaugural year for our SNDA Chapter at the University of Minnesota. The process for starting a new chapter has been arduous at times, however it has reinvigorated my passion for outreach and mentoring. The support and feeling of community that I have received from SNDA members within our chapter and nationally, along with the support of our mentors is unparalleled by anything else I have encountered in dental school. Despite our short history thus far, I am proud of the conversations we are having, goals we are setting, and growth our members are achieving. Over the fall semester we introduced SNDA to the school through a Lunch and Learn, held a D1 recruiting meeting, hosted a fall grill-out social (in typical Minnesota weather—cold and rainy), and partnered with SNMA to enjoy a Friends-giving dinner. During the latter part of the semester we hosted an Appreciation Breakfast for our dispensing and assisting staff and took part in the SNDA National Holiday Food Drive. With all the energy our chapter has I'm very excited to see what we can accomplish this year and beyond.



Top left, SNDA members at the fall grill-out social. Top right, SNDA members serving breakfast to dispensing and assisting staff. Bottom, SNDA and SNMA members at Friends-giving.

## WHAT'S NEW SNDA?

### **Dental Students Featured on Our Social Media Page for #SNDAFamilySpotlight**



In an effort to promote comradery amongst SNDA members, we began highlighting a National SNDA member on a bi-weekly basis this school year! Please visit our profile on Instagram @snd1972, you may be surprised to see your photo displayed for #SNDAFamilySpotlight!

Pictured above from L to R: Ray Dawkins, D1 of UAB, Tyheisha Roach, D4 of Columbia University, Undine Davis, D2 of UAB, Celeste Edwards, D1 of LSU, Stephanie Bernard, D2 of Columbia University, and Carl Buchanon, II, D2 of University of Michigan.

Also new this year is the “SNDA Calendar” tab on our national website. Please visit [www.sndanet.org](http://www.sndanet.org), click on the “SNDA Calendar” tab to the far right and you will be directed to another page containing the calendar for that month (see images below). The calendar will have updates and deadlines for your chapter’s attention. Special thanks to MUSC President, Brandi Rollins for the suggestion on one of our Conference Calls, and our National Corresponding Secretary, Joshlyn Wilson for implementing the suggestion immediately.



Events for February 2017						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 February Regional Conference Call	13	14	15 Early Bird Conference Registration Begins	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25

### UPCOMING EVENTS

ASDA Annual Session, February 22-25, 2017 Orlando, FL  
 ADEA GoDental Annual Session & Exhibit, March 18-21, 2017 Long Beach, CA  
 45<sup>th</sup> Annual SNDA Convention, July 19-24, 2017 Dallas, TX

- Registration
  - Early: February 15-April 15, \$210
  - On-time: April 16-June 15, \$230
  - Late: June 16-July 14, \$250
  - **There will be NO ONSITE registration!**

Regional Conference Calls w/The Director of Regional Communications, @ **5PM EST**

- February 12, 2017
- March 12, 2017
- April 9, 2017





### Letter from the Editor

ArNelle R. Wright, D4 University of Florida College of Dentistry

Greetings SNDA leaders,

You guys really made the Emerge difficult for me this semester, in a great way that is! Thank you for taking the time to submit articles for your school and for other chapters to see how well you're doing. I would also like to thank all of the chapters for your participation thus far throughout the 2016-2017 academic school year. You all are the reason SNDA continues to thrive and reach unparalleled dimensions. Seeing your programming, community service projects, and academic achievements happening across the nation gives members of the national e-board great pleasure. We enjoy celebrating your successes. Finally, as the school year progresses, please continue to share information with me and your regional coordinators. We are here to serve you! Keep up the great work and I look forward to working with you all next semester!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "ArNelle R. Wright".

ArNelle R. Wright  
DMD Candidate c/o 2017  
University of Florida College of Dentistry  
SNDA National Director of Regional Communications



**Don't forget to educate your patients!**