



A COLLEGE UPDATE from *Dean A. Isabel Garcia, D.D.S., M.P.H.*

To: UF College of Dentistry,

It is hard to believe another semester is almost in the books, and there is a lot to be proud of and reflect on as 2018 comes to a close. It has been a busy fall, filled with accomplishments on all fronts including education, research, patient care, and towards our fundraising goal for the Go Greater capital campaign.

It was a pleasure to be surrounded by so many of our alumni and friends at Dental Fall Weekend and our Sarasota Gator Dentist gathering in November. We are grateful for their generous support of our college through scholarships, professorships, programming support, service as courtesy faculty, mentoring aspiring Gator Dentists, and beyond.

Just last week we learned that 100 percent of our students, and two alumni, seeking specialty and advanced education in dentistry matched in the Postdoctoral Dental Matching Program (Match 1). Congratulations to them for their hard work and diligence and to the faculty who continue to offer them such outstanding education.

December is always an exciting time as D.M.D. admission offers are extended, and the journey to becoming a dentist begins for the next class of Gator Dentists. I applaud the efforts of our Office of Admissions and our dental admissions ambassadors for another successful recruiting cycle that will bring another cohort of talented future dentists who will call UFCD home.

For the fourth straight year, our college has been recognized with a [Higher Education Excellence in Diversity \(HEED\) Award](#).

continued



UFCD Receives Fourth Straight Higher Education Excellence in Diversity (HEED) Award

For the fourth consecutive year the UF College of Dentistry received the 2018 Health Professions Higher Education Excellence in Diversity (HEED) Award from *INSIGHT Into Diversity* magazine, the oldest and largest diversity-focused publication in higher education. UFCD will be featured in the December 2018 issue of [INSIGHT Into Diversity magazine](#).

The HEED Award measures an institution's level of achievement and commitment in regard to broadening diversity and inclusion on campus through initiatives, programs, and outreach; student recruitment, retention, and completion; and hiring practices for faculty and staff.

Congratulations to all on this tremendous award, and special thanks to Abel Gilbert from the Office of Admissions for his diligence in this area.

[Read the full story](#)



Top Colleges for Diversity

This award recognizes our efforts to support diversity and inclusion, as well as a commitment to broaden programming, initiatives and outreach in all areas of recruitment, retention and hiring practices. An organization can only be strong when its human capital is united. Students, residents, faculty and staff at our college form a special community linked through interests, knowledge, science, curiosity and compassion.

Next year is expected to bring more growth and opportunity for UFCD. We will [take over clinic administration at the NCEF Pediatric Dental Center](#) in Naples on January 1 and we are excited about being a part of [UF Health Dentistry Wildlight](#), slated to open in November 2019. Partnering with our UF Academic Health Center colleagues on interprofessional initiatives will continue to be a priority, as we strive to continually evaluate and enhance our work and delivery of education, care and our discoveries in research and support for training future researchers.

I hope you enjoy the holiday season with those who matter most to you, and I wish you a restful and relaxing semester break before 2019 is upon us. Thank you for all you do to make our college a wonderful place to work, teach, learn, discover and serve others.

Regards,
Dean Isabel Garcia

Research Corner

UFCD's Comprehensive Training Program in Oral Biology, which was recognized with ADEA's Gies Award last year, has been continuously funded by the NIH for nearly three decades through the T90/R90 award which supports three D.M.D./Ph.D. dual-degree students, four Ph.D. students and five postdoctoral fellows.

- **For the first time, the college currently has *five* enrolled D.M.D./Ph.D. students**
- **UFCD has *18* NIH-funded research fellows**

The college is ranked No. 5 in NIH funding (fourth among publics), by the Blue Ridge Medical Institute and received \$15 million in awards through FY18.

Recent published work:

- Lemos' study on Mn transporters, *E. faecalis* could have promising implications on the future of combating infections [full story](#)
- In new study, Frias-Lopez & team link cortisol to periodontal disease [full story](#)

Have a paper being published soon? Be sure to let [Communications know](#) to help publicize!



NCEF Pediatric Dental Center Administration Transition

Beginning on January 1, 2019, UFCD will take over administration of the NCEF Pediatric Dental Center in Naples. The center opened in 2008 as a collaboration between the UF College of Dentistry and the Healthcare Network of Southwest Florida; the building and project were initiated and funded by the Naples Children & Education Foundation.

Since 2008, the Healthcare Network has handled the staffing and program administration and UFCD faculty directed the educational and clinical programs. As you know, UFCD operates dental centers throughout the state and typically handles all clinical, financial and administrative aspects. This administrative transition will bring the NCEF Pediatric Dental Center in alignment with our standard operations.

Below are several important key points. Please see our [Naples transition web page](#) for more information.

- UFCD will continue to provide the same comprehensive oral health care services and educational programs. The dental center will remain on the Collier Campus of Florida SouthWestern State College where it has been since its inception.
- There will be no changes to the current program until December 31, 2018. If children have a scheduled appointment between now and then, no action is necessary.
- Patients who wish to continue care at the NCEF Pediatric Dental Center after January 1 will need to transfer records to UFCD by completing the Authorization for Release of Medical Records form and following the instructions for mailing, or call the Healthcare Network at 239-658-3000.
- To schedule an appointment after January 1, 2019, patients can call 325-273-5953 or email naples@dental.ufl.edu.



2018 Holiday Tea & Service Pin Ceremony

Please join us on **WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1-3 P.M.** in the Dean's Office for the UF College of Dentistry's annual Holiday Tea to celebrate the holiday season. Stop by for coffee, tea, treats, holiday music and good cheer. If you'd like to bring a nonperishable food item as a donation for UF's Field and Fork Pantry, we will have a donation box available. Immediately following the tea, we'll have our annual Service Pin Ceremony in D3-3. Everyone is welcome to join in the celebration.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12

2018 Holiday Tea | 1-3 PM, Dean's Office

2018 Service Pin Ceremony | 3-4 PM, D3-3

Congratulations to our staff celebrating five-year service milestones!

40 YEARS

- Melanie Chelette

35 YEARS

- Kathy Galloway
- Frances Rollins

30 YEARS

- Allene Aaron
- Quincy Allen
- Janice Braddy
- Valarie Brown
- Leslie Mcmanus-Ferrelli
- Mary Taylor

20 YEARS

- Christina Haskins
- Labrishia Howard Johnson
- Angela Stallworth
- Melinda Williams

15 YEARS

- Amanda Phelps
- Christina Ray (St. Petersburg)
- Dorothy Williams

10 YEARS

- Marisara Alequin
- Kimberly Dixon
- Tammy Crews
- Mitzi Rivers
- Jessica Sanchez

5 YEARS

- Alline Clark
- Maria Davila de Gonzalez (Naples)
- Abel Gilbert
- Susan Gorman (Naples)
- Mildred Gumbs (Hialeah)
- Yohana Hernandez Clemente (Naples)
- Renita Jenkins
- Anthony Licari
- Audra Livoti
- Manola Luque
- Richard Miller
- Kelly Raulerson
- Glover Smith
- Goldy Warner (St. Petersburg)

Micaela Gibbs Appointed Interim Chair of Community Dentistry and Behavioral Science



The UF College of Dentistry announced the appointment of Micaela Gibbs, D.D.S., M.H.A., as interim chair of the department effective October 12, 2018.

Gibbs, a clinical associate professor in the UF Department of Community Dentistry and Behavioral Science has served on faculty with the department since 2003 where she has directed the college's Community-Based Programs since 2007.

In addition, she oversees the UF Statewide Network for Community Oral Health and became the coordinator of Global Service Learning in 2018. Gibbs grew up outside Denver, Colorado, and earned her dental degree from the University of Colorado in 1994 and then completed a general practice residency and a fellowship in Head and Neck Oncology at Northwestern Memorial Hospital. She worked in private practice and was an adjunct faculty member at the University of Colorado before joining UF.

Gibbs' focus will include continuing to grow the impact of the department by maintaining its successful community outreach, clinical and research missions, strengthening the scholarly and educational base, and encouraging cohesion with other academic groups within the college.

Save The Date

**FEBRUARY 9
10 AM**

**CLASS OF 2022
WHITE COAT
CEREMONY
UNIVERSITY
AUDITORIUM**



Awards

Congratulations to Drs. Katz, Neubert and Nimmo, who are UFCD's 2019 UF Term Professorship Awardees. The award recognizes achievement in research philosophy, innovation, leadership and funding. Each award runs three years and provides a \$5,000 salary supplement.



Dr. Joseph Katz



Dr. John Neubert



Dr. Arthur Nimmo



Congratulations, Dr. Widmer

Department of Orthodontics Associate Professor Charley Widmer, D.D.S., M.S., has been appointed to the National Academy of Science, Engineering and Medicine, or NASEM, Committee on Evidence-based Clinical Practice Guidelines for Prescribing Opioids for Acute Pain. As a member of the committee, Widmer will contribute to the development of guidelines for prescribing opioids for acute pain. [Read the full story](#)

Welcome new faculty!

The UF College of Dentistry has welcomed 10 new faculty members in 2018, and we're sending a warm UFCD and Gator welcome to each. Get to know all of our new faculty members through biography vignettes located on the college's [main website](#).

Thank you to Dr. Patty Probert for bringing the 'Unconscious Bias Workshop' to UFCD in November, and for facilitating college-wide dialogue so we are all better equipped to advocate for inclusion at the UF College of Dentistry.

Learning Objectives

- Understand the science and research of unconscious bias
- Identify how bias and the processes of the unconscious mind can impact critical healthcare decisions and results
- Become aware of your own background, and its impact on your perceptions so you are better able to advocate for inclusion in your organization
- Apply new strategies for practicing more conscious awareness individually and organizationally

Unconscious Bias Workshop

PAUSE

- P**ay attention to what's beneath judgements and assessments
- A**cknowledge your own reaction, interpretations
- U**nderstand other possible reactions and interpretations
- S**earch for empowering, productive ways to deal with the situation
- E**xecute your action plan

"We see the world as we are, rather than the way it is."

Open Afternoons
a UFCD tradition
snack | socialize
hosted by Dean Isabel Garcia

FEBRUARY 13
2-3:30 p.m.
DEAN'S OFFICE (D4-16)
espresso &
Valentine's Day sweets

UF
COLLEGE of
DENTISTRY

Thank you to our faculty and staff for ensuring our first 'Open Afternoon' was a huge success. We all enjoyed each other's company, and are looking forward to our next gathering in February just before Valentine's Day.

100 percent match

All UFCD students and two alumni enrolled in Match 1 of the Postdoctoral Dental Matching Program matched in a program. Match 2 programs will be announced January 28, 2019. Congratulations!

