

**VCU School of Dentistry
Faculty Research Directory (11/6/09)**

Administration

Ronald J. Hunt – Harry Lyons Professor and Dean

D.D.S. Dentistry, University of Iowa, 1973
M.S. Dental Public Health, University of Iowa, 1982
Diplomate American Board of Dental Public Health, 1986

Research interests: Epidemiological surveys; clinical trials; health policy and educational policy research

Al M. Best – Associate Professor of Biostatistics

Ph.D Biostatistics, Medical College of Virginia, 1984
M.S. Quantitative Psychology, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
1978

Research interests: Statistical methods in dental research

Riki Gottlieb – Assistant Professor

D.M.D. Dentistry, The Hebrew University, Israel, 2002
Certificate AEGD, VCU, School of Dentistry, 2006

Research interests: Virtual reality simulation in dental education.

Department of Endodontics

B. Ellen Byrne - Associate Professor and Associate Dean for Academic Affairs

D.D.S. Dentistry, Virginia Commonwealth University, 1983
Certificate Endodontics, Virginia Commonwealth University, 1990
Ph.D. Pharmacology, Virginia Commonwealth University, 1991

Research interests: Clinical pharmacology

Samuel A. Black Jr. – Assistant Professor

M.S. Biology, University of South Carolina, 1996
D.M.D. University of Kentucky School of Dentistry, 2002
Ph.D. Oral Biology, Boston University, 2007
Certificate Endodontics, Boston University, 2009

Research Interests: Basic science research in the regulation of Connective Tissue Growth Factor (CTGF) in Phenytoin-induced gingival overgrowth.

Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery

A. Omar Abubaker - Associate Professor and Department Chair

B.D.S Dentistry, University of Alexandria, Egypt, 1975
Ph.D. University of Pittsburgh, 1984
D.M.D. Dentistry, University of Pittsburgh, 1990
Certificate Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, Presbyterian University Hospital of Pittsburgh, 1984-1990
Certificate Research Fellowship, Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, University of Pittsburgh 1990-1991
Diplomate American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, 1993

Research interests: Clinical and basic research on the pathophysiology of temporomandibular disorders with special interest in the role of hormones in these disorders, the management and economics of oral and maxillofacial trauma and facial reconstruction.

Daniel M. Laskin – Professor

D.D.S. Dentistry, Indiana University, 1947
M.S. Oral Pathology, University of Illinois, 1951
Diplomate American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, 1955

Research interests: Temporomandibular disorders, orofacial pain, craniofacial growth, clinical studies in oral and maxillofacial surgery, clinical drug trials

Robert A. Strauss – Professor and Program Director

DDS Dentistry, University of Buffalo, 1979
Certificate GPR, Buffalo General Hospital, 1980
Certificate Anesthesiology, Micheal Reese Medical Center, 1981
Certificate Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, Micheal Reese Medical Center, 1984
Diplomate American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, 1986

M.D. Medicine, UHSA School of Medicine 2002

Research Interests: Laser and cosmetic surgery, sleep apnea, anesthesia, orthognathic and reconstructive surgery

Department of Orthodontics

Steven J. Lindauer – Norborne Muir Professor, Department Chairman

DMD Dentistry, University of Connecticut, 1986
MDS Oral Biology, University of Connecticut, 1989
Certificate Orthodontics, University of Connecticut, 1989

Research Interests: Orthodontic biomechanics; orthodontic clinical research, and jaw function

Eser Tüfekçi- Associate Professor

DDS: Dentistry, University of Istanbul, 1989
MS: Dental Materials, The Ohio State University, 1993
PhD: Oral Biology- Biomaterials, The Ohio State University, 1998
Certificate: Orthodontics, University of Minnesota, 2002
Diplomate: American Board of Orthodontics, 2007.

Research: Fluoride release from polymers, development of a bioactive glass containing novel orthodontic bonding agent a calcium and phosphate releasing ability, orthodontic materials, and clinical orthodontics.

Bhavna Shroff – Professor, and Graduate Director

MDentSc University of Connecticut, 1989
Certificate Orthodontics, University of Connecticut, 1989
DDS Universite Salpetriere Paris V, 1978

Research Interests: Biology of Tooth Movement, tooth Development and Eruption, Orthodontic Appliance Design and Biomechanics, evaluation access to Orthodontic care through Medicaid, practice, evaluation of the Orthodontic curriculum design.

Department of Pediatric Dentistry

Tegwyn H. Brickhouse – Associate Professor and Interim Chair

DDS Dentistry, University of Nebraska Medical Center, 1996
PhD Epidemiology, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 2002
Certificate Pediatric Dentistry, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 2002
Certificate Dental Public Health, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 2002

Research Interests: Oral Health Disparities and Health Services Research, Pediatric Oral Health Performance Measures, utilization of dental services in public programs, the delivery of oral health services in medical settings. Community-based research examining the effectiveness of preventive dental services.

John H. Unkel- Associate Professor

DDS Dentistry, Northwestern University, 1988
Certificate Pediatric Dentistry, Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh, 1991
Fellowship Craniofacial Fellowship, Children's Hospital Chicago Northwestern, 1992
MPA West Virginia University, 1999

Research Interests: Health Policy and Graduate Medical Education Administration, pediatric pharmacologic interventions and clinical trials.

Department of Periodontics

Harvey A. Schenkein – Paul Tucker Goad Professor, Chairman, and Assistant Dean for Research

D.D.S. Dentistry, SUNY at Buffalo, 1974
Ph.D. SUNY at Buffalo, 1978
Certificate Periodontics, SUNY at Buffalo, 1978

Research interests: Genetic risk for periodontal diseases, immunobiology of periodontal diseases, periodontal infection and systemic diseases

John C. Gunsolley – Professor

BSEE Electrical Engineering, General Motors Institute (Now Kettering University), 1972
DDS Dentistry, Indiana University, 1976
Certificate Periodontics, VCU, 1987
MS Biostatistics, VCU, 1987

Research interests: Biostatistics, Meta-analysis, dental clinical research methodology, interactions between periodontal infection and systemic diseases, OTC dental products and their efficacy

Thomas C. Waldrop - Associate Professor and Graduate Director

D.D.S. Dentistry, Virginia Commonwealth University, 1973
M.S. Biomedical Sciences, UT Health Science Center, Houston, Tx, 1978
Certificate Periodontics, USAF, Wilford Hall Medical Center, Lackland AFB, 1978
Diplomate American Board of Periodontology, 1982

Research interests: Implantology, guided bone regeneration, guided tissue regeneration and dental occlusion as it relates to periodontal disease and treatment.

Thomas E. Koertge – Associate Professor

D.M.D. Dentistry, Southern Illinois University, 1978
Certificate Periodontics, University of Iowa, 1981
Ph.D. Microbiology and Immunology, University of Iowa, 1984

Research interests: periodontics, immunology, antimicrobial drugs, educational measures.

Sharon K. Lanning – Assistant Professor

B.A. Canisius College, 1992
D.D.S. SUNY Buffalo, School of Dental Medicine, 1996
Certificate VCU, School of Dentistry, 1999

Research interests: Implementation and evaluation of educational programs and curricula through the use of outcome assessment instruments such as knowledge surveys, satisfaction surveys, and evaluation criteria.

S. Esra Sahingur-Assistant Professor

D.D.S. Istanbul University, School of Dental Medicine, 1994
M.S. SUNY at Buffalo, 1999
Ph.D. SUNY at Buffalo, 2004
Certificate SUNY at Buffalo, Department of Periodontics and Endodontics, 2004

Research Interests: Genetic susceptibility for periodontal disease. Role of immune and inflammatory mediators and host-pathogen interactions in periodontal disease pathogenesis. Molecular markers that may link periodontal inflammation with systemic diseases.

Department of Prosthodontics

Dr. John W. Unger - W. Tyler Haynes Professor and Department Chairman

D.D.S. Dentistry, University of Illinois, 1972
Certificate Prosthodontics, University of Illinois, 1974
Diplomate American Board of Prosthodontics

Research interests: Implant retained dentures

David R. Burns - Professor

B.S. Lewis and Clark College, 1976
D.M.D. Dentistry, Oregon Health Sciences University, 1980
Certificate Prosthodontics, Emory University, 1985
Diplomate American Board of Prosthodontics

Research interests: Implant overdenture treatment; restoration of endodontically treated teeth

Dr. James P. Coffey - Associate Professor

D.D.S. Dentistry, University of Minnesota, 1982
M.S. Prosthodontics, 1984
Diplomate American Board of Prosthodontics

Research interests: Dental materials, occlusion

Department of Oral and Craniofacial Molecular Biology

W. Andrew Yeudall – Interim Chairman and Associate Professor

B.Sc. University of Glasgow, 1983

B.D.S. University of Glasgow, 1986

Ph.D. University of Glasgow, 1991

Research interests: diagnostic and predictive markers for squamous cell carcinoma, cell cycle regulation, growth factor signaling

Francis L. Macrina - Professor

B.S. Cornell University, 1968

Ph.D. Syracuse University, 1972

Research interests: Molecular pathogenesis of infectious diseases including caries, periodontal disease, and endocarditis; microbial genomics; research ethics

Todd Kitten - Associate Professor

B.A. Biology, University of Dallas, 1986

Ph.D. Microbiology, Univ. of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, 1992

Research interests: genomic and post-genomic analysis of oral microflora; examination of factors affecting *Streptococcus sanguinis* fitness in the oral cavity and virulence for infective endocarditis.

Janina Lewis - Associate Professor

M.S. Biology, Uniwersytet Gdanski, Poland, 1990

Ph.D. Microbiology, Virginia Commonwealth University, 1997

Research interests: virulence of oral Gram-negative bacteria implicated in development and progression of periodontal disease

Ping Xu - Associate Professor

B.Sc. Nanjing University, 1982
M.Sc Nanjing University, 1986
Ph.D. Oxford University/Nanjing University, 1989

Research interest: microbial genomics and comparative genomics, vaccine development on streptococcal endocarditis, drug targets identification.

Hiroshi Miyazaki - Assistant Professor

M.D. Nagasaki University, Japan, 1992
Ph.D. Oncology, Nagasaki University, Japan, 1997

Research interest: Molecular basis of signal transduction in cell proliferation, differentiation and neoplastic transformation especially via GPCRs.

Department of Oral Pathology

James C. Burns - Professor and Department Chairman

D.D.S. Dentistry, Virginia Commonwealth University, 1972
M.S.Ed. Education, University of Southern California, 1975
Ph.D. Microbiology & Immunology, Virginia Commonwealth University , 1979

Research interests: Oral cancer, topical medicines for oral ulcers & aphthous ulcers, retrospective analysis of oral lesions, oral virology

John A. Svirsky - Professor

D.D.S. Dentistry, Virginia Commonwealth University, 1973
G.P.R. General Practice Residency, Long Island Jewish Medical Center,
Queens, New York, 1974
Certificate Oral Pathology, Catholic Medical Center, Jamaica, New York, 1976
M. Ed. Adult Education, Virginia Commonwealth University, 1979

Research interests: AIDS education grants, clinical research drug studies and early diagnosis of oral cancer.

Laurie C. Carter- Professor

D.D.S. University at Buffalo, 1983
Certificate Oral Pathology, University at Buffalo, 1986
M.A. University at Buffalo, 1988
Ph.D. University at Buffalo, 1993

Research Interests: Correlation between presence of calcified atherosclerotic plaque in the carotid bulb on imaging studies and risk for stroke, correlation of radiographic patterns of disease with histopathology, biochemical measurements and biologic behavior.

Department of General Practice

Fred Certosimo-Chairman and Associate Professor

D.M.D. University of Pennsylvania
Certificate Comprehensive Dentistry, Naval Postgraduate Dental School
MSEd Old Dominion University

Research interests: Clinical aspects of General Practice Dentistry.

Peter C. Moon - Associate Professor

B.S. Engineering Physics, University of Toledo-1964
M.S. Materials Science, University of Virginia, 1967
PhD Materials Science, University of Virginia, 1971

Research interests: Bonding in dentistry; development of collagen/polymer scaffolds by mineralization for tissue engineering to promote bone and dentin repair; MechanoChemical formation of apatite mineral for composite fillers, Use of bioactive glass and phosphoprotein molecules to activate mineralization, adsorption of proteins on nano-apatite as related to dental implants and bone scaffolds.

Elizabeth T. Nance - Assistant Professor

BS Auburn University, 1974
DDS VCU School of Dentistry, May 1977
MSHA VCU School of Allied Health, May 2002

Research Interests: Topics in dental health administration, insurance and risk management, student self-assessment, technology in dental education, clinical aspects of general dentistry.

Carol N. Brooks - Associate Professor

BS Dental Hygiene, VCU School of Dentistry, May, 1975
DDS VCU School of Dentistry, May, 1994
AEGD VCU School of Dentistry, June, 1995

Research Interests: Dentin bonding, composite resins, periodontal research in the areas of genetic risk and immunology, clinical aspects of general dentistry

Division of Dental Hygiene

Joan M. Pellegrini – Associate Professor

Ph.D. Education, Virginia Commonwealth University, 2008
M.S. Dental Hygiene Education, Columbia University, NYC, 1972
B.S. Dental Hygiene, Fairleigh Dickinson University, Rutherford, NJ, 1970
A.A. Dental Hygiene, Fairleigh Dickinson University, Teaneck, NJ, 1968

Research interests: Clinical dental hygiene, adult learning, instructional technologies, educational strategies, interdisciplinary clinical studies with medically compromised patients, domestic violence prevention.