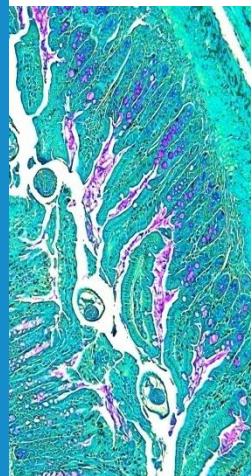




Visit our website: pediatricdentistry.ucsf.edu

University of California
San Francisco
Pediatric Dentistry
Alumni Newsletter



**Greetings from UCSF
Pediatric Dentistry to
Alumni and friends!**

*We all hope you have
been safe and well during
these unprecedented
times! We have exciting
updates to share with you!*



Utilizing our brand new clinic

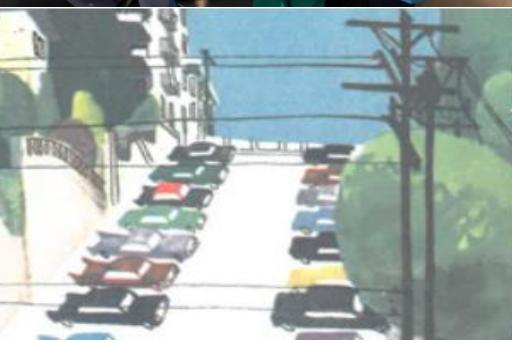
Our new clinic, which had not been renovated since the 1970's, opened the day before UCSF shut down for COVID-19. Once the clinic reopened in the summer, our residents were able to utilize this beautiful facility which has an open bay design with 8 operatories. Residents, faculty, staff and most importantly, the patients are thrilled with this clean new space.



OCT 3:
New
Resident
Welcome
via Zoom
@ 12pm



Nov 3, 10:
Virtual
Interviews
for C/O
2024



A Message from the Alumni Board

Thank you for helping the Alumni Association! Our dedicated board members shall continue our mission to keep alumni in touch with current program developments and help support the division of pediatric dentistry and their residents. Where do donations go and how is the money spent, some Alumni ask? Since the Pediatric Dental Alumni Board formed in 2008, alumni membership has grown and your **dues payments** (see below) have kindly supported resident continuing education, alumni receptions at CSPD and AAPD; in addition, there have been annual resident welcome events, research presentations, winter retreats and socials. Furthermore, alumni donations to the **Pediatric Dentistry Fund for Excellence** (<https://pediatricdentistry.ucsf.edu/support-program>) has supported the program by making funds available for resident computer equipment, research expenses and travel to legislative meetings.

The **Pediatric Dental Clinic Upgrade Campaign** (<https://pediatricdentistry.ucsf.edu/support-program>) is well underway! The clinic began operations in June 2020! Thanks to the generosity of many alumni and friends, this much needed upgrade has become a reality.

In addition, many alumni have volunteered their time to help mentor, teach and do outreach with the residents. You as alumni are such an important resource for many of the residents and they value your time and support. We appreciate all that you can provide towards enhancing and maintaining our leadership in the field of Pediatric Dentistry.

On behalf of the Pediatric Dentistry department, current residents, and alumni board,
Thank you,
Neil Katsura ('87)

Meet the Alumni Board Members! ([LINK HERE](#))

Please join the Alumni Association and contribute to your membership for 2021. [Deadline is February 28, 2021.](#)

Alumni dues (\$100.00 annually) go to help support alumni events and to help you reconnect with your colleagues. Here are two ways to pay:
Venmo: @Amita-Ruehe

or

Please make your check payable to: UC Regents with "Pedo Membership dues" in memo line.
To ensure proper tracking, please complete the Remittance form ([link to remittance form](#)) and send both the form and the check to the below address:

University Development
Attention: Mario Peraza
220 Montgomery Street, Suite 220
San Francisco, CA 94143-0248



Division Update from Ray Stewart, DMD

Like everyone else in California, UCSF Pediatric Dentistry has been significantly affected by the COVID19 pandemic. Our clinics' person patient visits have been only recently restored to approximately 70% of pre-COVID volume due to social distancing requirements and the need for COVID testing on any patient who will undergo potentially aerosol generating procedures. The testing requirement has significantly impacted our number of restorative cases due to some patients refusing testing and some due to an inability to access testing appointments.

During this down time, we have maintained a robust didactic and seminar program, the success of which has been largely due to the tremendous efforts and tireless work by third year resident Hellene Ellenikiotis. Any of you who took advantage of our invitation to join our seminar and guest speaker programs this summer will know how comprehensive and informative these programs have been. Hellene deserves a huge round of applause and expression of gratitude for her efforts!!

Fortunately, our volume of Hospital Cases treated in the Mission Bay OR has been minimally affected by the pandemic and we continue to be very busy with general anesthesia cases. Busy as we are, we are never booked more than 3-4 weeks out so are very willing and able to see any cases you may wish to refer due to health or other conditions that might contraindicate an in office GA procedure.

In spite of all of the negative things we all have experienced (COVID, wild fires etc.) I have some really wonderful news to share.

1. We are elated to report that we have successfully recruited a **new Program Director**. Dr. Tom Tanbonliong joined us in early July to assume his new role. In the short time he has been here, he has made a huge difference in all phases of our program. Tom came to us with 20 years of experience with the residency program at USC in Los Angeles and we are all looking forward to his presence and innovative ideas as to how to make this program reach its enormous potential.
2. We are also extremely pleased and grateful to have **Dr Jean Calvo** join us as a full time faculty member also in July. As you all know Jean served as our Chief Resident last year and did an exemplary job in that position. Jean will play an instrumental role in our transition from the MS program in Oral and Craniofacial Sciences to one with a **Masters in Public Health focus**. You can read more about our being successful in applying for and funded for a five year HRSA grant elsewhere in this Newsletter.
3. Our **newly re-modeled clinic** space is now open and fully operational. The clinic opened the week before the school was closed for COVID so we went several months wondering if we would ever regain access to this wonderful teaching and learning environment. As soon as we are able to resume social gatherings, we intend to have a large Open House and Grand Opening to which you will all be invited and hopefully attend. We are eternally grateful to the alumnae, friends and foundations who contributed to bringing this dream to a reality. It is a space that we can all be proud of and perhaps most importantly, one where children will feel comfortable and welcome.
4. The final piece of good news is that the Division has recently acquired a **new Solea 2 dental laser**. (**The first PD residency program in the country to do so**). Our faculty has just completed training and certification and will be introducing it to our residents with the intent of having the instrument become an every day part of our practice. We also intend to use it in several research projects and to implement CE courses for the profession on lasers in Pediatric Dentistry practice.



Ray Stewart, DMD,MS

Our Team



← 2nd Years

JungSoo Kim
Heidi Kim
Kei Katsura
Carl Buchanon
Pardis Lipkin
Michelle Tsao
Jack Bayless

3rd Years →

Hellene
Ellenikiotis
Carolynn Vuong
David Lee
Ida Gorshteyn
Joanna Meekay



A Message from Our Chief Resident

Dear Alumni and Friends!

What a year 2020 has been. We have seen it all and COVID-19 has tested all of our faculty and residents. Even though it has been challenging to build team chemistry in person, our shared experiences have brought us closer together as a family more than ever. COVID-19 has forced countless adjustments to the program, but these include a great deal of exciting improvements to make for a bright future. These developments include a brand new clinic, new faculty members (Dr. Thomas Tanbonliong and Dr. Jean Calvo), Solea laser treatment, renovations to the resident room, and more.

One of the biggest events is the appointment of our new program director, Dr. Thomas Tanbonliong. He brings a wealth of experience and comes with a fresh vision for the program. The residents take note of his caring, communicative, and knowledgeable presence. With just two months in, he has reinforced a great relationship between faculty and residents, restructured the didactics, boosted our sedation cases, and much more. I hope that you are all able to meet him soon and experience his greatness.

The first year residents have been nothing but spectacular. Their eagerness to learn and adaptability to the new normal has been a breath of fresh air for the program. The second year residents have not skipped a beat. They provide compassionate care to our patients, work diligently on their meaningful research projects, and help guide the first years. Third years, including myself, continue to soak up as much knowledge, tips, and expertise we can from faculty, staff, and alumni. We cannot believe how time flies, but we are excited for what the future holds. Overall, it has been special to see how the family and team mentality runs through our program. A tradition that will continue for years to come.

I want to thank the alumni for the unwavering support you have shown us, especially during these challenging times. You represent the type of pediatric dentists that we aim to become and we hope to make you proud. The residents and I are extremely grateful for the generous donations that improve our training experience, the time you spend with us in the clinic, and the pure strength of our network that you have created. It has been an absolute honor to be chief resident and I am so thankful for my time at UCSF alongside my wonderful co-residents.

Thank you!

David Lee ('21)



Welcoming our First Years!



Our first year residents pictured left to right:
Conrad, Alaleh, Rebecca, Alain and Rahul.

Alain Flores, DDS grew up in beautiful Seattle, Washington and graduated from the University of Washington with a B.S. in Environmental Health in 2010. He began dental school here at the University of California, San Francisco in 2011. While at UCSF, he participated in 3 dental mission trips to Jamaica, and was involved with Give Kids a Smile. After graduation he completed an AEGD residency in Seattle, WA, followed by 3 years of private practice in Seattle. During his time in private practice he began working in community health at a federally qualified health center, where he worked with underserved communities. It was during his time working in community health, along with his volunteering with the Special Olympics, that he discovered his love of pediatric dentistry.

Rahul Nagda, DDS was born and raised in Mumbai, India. He initially received his BDS from Maharashtra University in India in 2014. He practiced as an associate dentist for a year in Mumbai. To further his education goals he then attended the International Dentist Program at UCSF. He was part of the multiple student organizations at UCSF. He received the Outstanding Senior Award from California Dental Association and was inducted in the Omicron Kappa Upsilon dental honor society. After receiving his DDS degree in 2020 he joined Pediatric Dentistry residency at UCSF in 2020.

Conrad Chou, DMD Conrad was born in Texas, raised in Taiwan, and brought back as a preteen to Florida. He received his B.S. in Economics from Duke University in 2012. Conrad earned his dental degree from Columbia University in 2016. He then began his work as a dental officer in the US Navy. From the High Desert of California to overseas in Japan, he was privileged to ready warriors and care for heroes. Being a kid at heart, Conrad likes to share creativity with colleagues and children alike. He embraces scientific thinking as much as he enjoys dancing and origami. His favorite dental adventures include but are not limited to 3D printing a TMJ disc, going on a dental mission in the Philippines, and teaching preschoolers to do the floss dance. Conrad is excited to begin his residency here at UCSF!

Rebecca Renelus, DDS Rebecca was born and raised in Central Florida. She attended the University of Florida for undergrad, where she received a BHS. Rebecca then moved to New York City where she attended dental school at NYU. Her time at NYU College of Dentistry allowed Rebecca the opportunity to grow in leadership and community service towards underserved population groups. Rebecca was actively involved in Saturday Academy, a program that aims to increase diversity in the healthcare professions, especially dentistry, by introducing underrepresented high school students to the profession of dentistry, while simultaneously preparing them for the college application process. Rebecca was also an active member and leader of Student National Dental Association (SNDA). After receiving her DDS, Rebecca moved to the West coast to San Francisco to start her pediatric residency here at UCSF.

Alaleh Zadmehr , DMD, Alaleh was born and raised in Iran and moved to the US at the age of 17 to pursue higher education. She graduated from the University of California, Irvine, with a Bachelor of Science in Biological Sciences, and then from the University of California, San Francisco School of Dentistry. After graduation, she practiced dentistry throughout rural Texas with a focus on pediatric dentistry. After returning to the Bay Area, she continued caring for children in under-served areas in federally qualified community health centers. In 2010 and 2011, as part of Medical Missions for Children, Alaleh raised funds to open a dental clinic in Gitwe, a small village in Rwanda that previously had no access to dental care. She traveled two consecutive years to Gitwe to help to train the local dentist to treat patients. Locally, Alaleh devoted countless volunteer hours to treat kids in the Samaritan Free Dental Clinics in San Mateo and Redwood City. For the past 5 years, Alaleh worked at the Silva-Tiburcio Vasquez Health Center Pediatric Dental Clinic in Hayward, CA, treating mostly children from Central America and Afghanistan. Alaleh lives in the Bay Area with her husband and two children. In her free time, Alaleh enjoys traveling, baking, and spending time with her family. Alaleh is fluent in English and Farsi.

Read more about our Oakland based residents on the next page!

Growing Strong in Oakland

On July 1, 2020 we welcomed our second class at UCSF La Clinica at Children's Hospital Oakland residents, Alison Parker-Cole and Calvin Chang! We now officially have four residents based in Oakland. Our first inaugural class, Jack Bayless and Heidi Kim are in their second and final year, this June they will be the first graduating class from our two year program.

Alison Parker-Cole, DDS Alison is a San Mateo native and loves the Bay Area. For college, Alison ventured to the University of Wisconsin Madison where she graduated with honors with a Bachelor of Science in Biology. Dental school brought Alison back to the Bay Area where she attended University of California San Francisco. During dental school, she participated in pediatric externships at St. Joseph's Dental Clinic and Eastmont Community Clinic where her love of pediatric dentistry developed. She completed a General Practice Residency at the Veterans Affairs Palo Alto in 2015. Alison worked as a general dentist for 5 years at Rohnert Park Health Center (RPHC). In her last year, she was promoted to Dental Team Director.

Alison has received the ADA International Volunteer Award for her time volunteering with the United States Navy in Timor Leste and Micronesia. She was also awarded the C. Craig Memorial Scholarship and was inducted into the national dental honor society, Omicron Kappa Upsilon.

Her experience during externships, volunteer trips and work at RPHC, led her to apply to UCSF 2-year pediatric dentistry program this past year. She is thrilled to be part of the UCSF family again!

Calvin Chang, DMD Calvin was born and raised in Southern California. He received his Bachelor of Science in Biology from the University of California Los Angeles in 2006.

Calvin received his DMD degree from Tufts University School of Dental Medicine in Boston, Massachusetts in 2013. After graduation, he completed a year of General Practice Residency in Dentistry at the University of Southern California where he provided comprehensive dental care to the medically underserved population in the City of Los Angeles.

After working as a general dentist in private practice and community health for 6 years, Calvin realized that his favorite aspect of dentistry came from being able to help children restore their smile while allowing them to feel at ease during their dental visits.

Having grown up in Southern California all his life, Calvin has since found his home in the Bay Area. He shares an immense passion for basketball and rooting for his hometown teams – the LA Lakers and the UCLA Bruins!

He is a member of the American Dental Association, California Dental Association, and Tri-County Dental Society.



Our new first year residents, Calvin Chang and Alison Parker- Cole.



Our four Oakland residents, Calvin Chang, Alison Parker-Cole, Heidi Kim and Jack Bayless (pictured left to right).

Welcoming Our New Program Director: Dr. Tom Tanbonliong!



A message from Dr. Tom Tanbonliong: It is a great feeling to be back in San Francisco! This is where I started my professional journey at the University of the Pacific (UOP) years ago. After UOP, I went to Cleveland, Ohio, to complete a General Practice Residency and my pediatric dentistry specialty training at Case Western Reserve University (CWRU) and Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital. I always desired to go back to California.

After teaching a year at CWRU, an excellent teaching opportunity came up at the University of Southern California (USC) as a clinic director. At USC, I was fortunate to mentor and teach pediatric dentistry residents, which were very enriching aspects of my job. A big part of my career is being actively involved in leadership positions with the California Society of Pediatric Dentistry, the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry, and the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry. Currently, I serve as a site visitor for pediatric dentistry for the Commission on Dental Accreditation. Organized dentistry gives me a unique opportunity to broaden my horizon and gain perspective on the specialty's challenges and future.

I am honored to be appointed as the new program director. UCSF has a national reputation for cutting edge research, academic and clinical excellence. Numerous leaders in organized dentistry in California and nationally are also proud alumni of UCSF. The facilities are phenomenal, and the diverse patient population enhances the clinical training of the residency program. The program's most valuable asset, however, is the remarkable faculty, led by Dr. Ray Stewart, residents, and staff members who work tirelessly to provide the best care to the patients they serve. The culture of respect, the quest for knowledge, and a "family-oriented" team setting drew me to the program.

As program director, my vision is to enhance and solidify the academic and clinical components of the Parnassus and La Clinica/CHO sites. One of the core values of pediatric dentistry is giving and service to the underserved. This should be continued and emphasized, so we train pediatric dentists who will be compassionate and well-rounded to provide care for all children. It takes a village to educate a pediatric dentist. I extend an open invitation to all of you to be an active part of this "village." We need your support to move forward and make UCSF Pediatric Dentistry one of the best programs! I am excited to be a part of this strong team and look forward to many years of mentoring future alumni of the UCSF Pediatric Dentistry Family.

QUICK FIRE QUESTIONS

Favorite Color?: RED

Favorite Food?: A juicy artery-clogging piece of prime rib.

Favorite TV Show?: CNN or Fox. It's fascinating how they differ. New is news, isn't it?

Favorite Ice Cream Flavor?: Mango Sorbet

Dogs or Cats?: Dogs, for sure!

Favorite Actor/Actress?: A 10-year-old who is having a drama filled moment in the dental chair.

Favorite Movie?: "The Lion King"

Dream Vacation Destination?: Bora-Bora

Most exotic place you've traveled to?: Kirkenes, Norway, when I saw the northern lights.

If you could time travel, what year would you travel to?: July 4, 1776- the Independence Day of the United States.

What TV show are you currently binging?: I got so addicted that I have to terminate my Netflix subscription.

What is the last book you've read (non-dentistry related) ?: "Influence, the psychology of Persuasion" - given to me by someone who has a golden heart.

Resident Research

Residents have been working hard to progress in their scholarly activities and complete meaningful and novel research during their time in residency. First year residents are currently meeting with mentors, and getting ready to start their projects.

C/O 2022 research projects and mentors:

JungSoo Kim, PI: Daniel Fried, PhD

Jung Soo's research aims to assess early occlusal cries on primary teeth using near-infrared light-based imaging. The new imaging technology will be able to assess whether the lesions are active or arrested, as well as its depth and severity.

Michelle Tsao, PI: Kristin Hoeft, PhD, MPH

Michelle is investigating the reasons why parents refuse dental treatment under general anesthesia for their children and whether there are differences between families from different cultural backgrounds and beliefs.

Carl Buchanon II, PI: George Taylor, DMD

Carl is conducting research with the associate Dean for Diversity and Inclusion on tobacco smoking in adolescents and determining its association with perio health. Carl will be doing a secondary data analysis utilizing data from the Howard and Meharry Adolescents Caries Study (HMACS).

Kei Katsura, PI: Ophir Klein, MD, PhD, Benedikt Halgrimsson, PhD

Kei is studying the craniofacial features of the rasopathy syndromes and trying to determine genetic links to their facial phenotypes for improved diagnostics. She is fortunate to be working with several PIs from the FaceBase team as well as new collaborators from Belgium (Peter Claes, PhD)

Pardis Lipkin, PI: Ling Zhan, DDS, PhD

Pardis is conducting an exploratory review to determine whether the application of Silver Diamine Fluoride (SDF) to carious primary teeth prior to general anesthesia can result in less dental treatment in the following areas: fewer dental extractions, less need for pulpal treatment and a reduced need for subsequent treatment up to 1 year following GA.

C/O 2021 research projects and mentors:

Hellene Ellenikiotis, PI: and Pinelopi Xenoudi, DDS, MS

Hellene is conducting a clinical trial to evaluate the Pharmacokinetics of Silver Diamine Fluoride in children.

Ida Gorshteyn, PI: Dr Yan Zhang, MD, PhD

Ida is studying the effect of different genes in the development and calcification of enamel in amelogenesis.

David Lee, PI: Dr. Peter Rechmann

David is helping with a single blind, controlled clinical split mouth study testing the treatment with a new CO₂- 9.3μm short-pulsed laser in addition to fluoride therapy resulting in changes in crystal composition and structure to better prevent dental caries in the occlusal surface of vital teeth when compared to fluoride therapy alone over 12 months.

Joanna Meekay, PI: Ray Stewart, DMD, MS

Joanna is completing a retrospective study of the success rates of primary maxillary anterior full coverage crowns vs inter proximal discing. She is collecting data from the offices of Alameda Pediatric Dentistry and is excited to collaborate with Dr. Perry and his wonderful team.

Carolynn Vuong, PI: Stefan Habelitz, PhD

Carolynn is researching the bond strength of various restorative materials to SDF-treated dentin. Carolynn's research is supported in part by a research award from the CSPD foundation!

Heidi Kim, PI: Ray Stewart, DDS, MS

The study aims to evaluate the safety and efficacy of a moderate sedation drug regimen consisting of P.O. morphine, hydroxyzine, and ibuprofen, as utilized with nitrous oxide and oxygen sedation. Orally administered morphine will serve as an effective, safe agent as a sedative and analgesic drug regimen for pediatric dental patients requiring advanced behavior guidance techniques.

UCSF Tribute to Dr. Andy Soderstrom

Andy Soderstrom, DDS had a passion for wine, the California Golden bears and his family. He worked in his Modesto private practice and became a leader in the dental community as the CDA past president and co-founder of CDA cares. Previously, he was the executive director of the CSPD and CDA Political Action Committee. He received the CDA foundation's 2015 humanitarian award for his lifetime of outstanding, and selfless leadership and contributions to fellow human beings in the field at dentistry. In addition, he was involved in many ADA and CDA council and committees that helped create programs to increase the access to dental care.



Through his teachings, Andy shared his immense amount of compassion for the welfare and dental needs of children; and spread his ideals of giving back to the community by mentoring residents UCSF and Children's Hospital Oakland-La Clinica, from 1986-2020.

He is deeply missed by his UCSF, UOP, Children's Hospital Oakland-La Clinica, CDA and CSPD families.



A Go fund me page is in his honor and dedication to
Pediatric Dentistry:

[link: gf.me/u/yxmjf2](https://gf.me/u/yxmjf2)

How We've Adjusted to COVID-19



PGY-2 Carl Buchanon helping out at the UCSF COVID Testing Clinic

Here at UCSF health and safety is our top priority! The Dental Center at UCSF has been very flexible throughout these ever changing times. We are currently implementing COVID-19 testing for all patients over the age of 10, except those who are special needs. For patients below the age of 10, COVID-19 testing is limited to aerosolizing procedures only. We have discontinued the use of prophy cups at this time for patients who are not COVID-19 tested. To help with the increased demand of testing needs, pediatric dental residents have helped at the onsite UCSF COVID Testing tent! In addition, we have limited the number of residents at each site to allow for social distancing. We have also been completing all of our didactics and lectures via Zoom!



Future Plans for Our Program

UCSF Pediatric Dentistry and Dental Public Health Residency Programs Receive 2020-2025 HRSA Training Grant

UCSF Pediatric Dentistry is ecstatic to have received a \$3.2 million dollar five-year Health Resources and Training grant (HRSA) in conjunction with UCSF Dental Public Health to enhance our training programs and provide needed care in the community. The grant aims to improve the oral health of vulnerable, underserved, and rural children in California by expanding and enhancing the UCSF postdoctoral training programs in pediatric dentistry and dental public health. Objectives of the grant include partnering with additional federal qualified health centers to provide pediatric dental care while integrating oral health into pediatric primary care, and increasing pediatric dental training in dental public health topics such as quality improvement, cultural competency, oral health literacy, social determinants of health, and health advocacy. Dental public health residents will also receive supplemental experience in pediatric dentistry through this grant. Additionally, the grant will enable pediatric dentistry and dental public health to establish a virtual dental home project for elementary schools in rural California to provide care to children without access to care locally. The grant is dually led by Dr. Ray Stewart from Pediatric Dentistry and Dr. Enihomo Obadan from Dental Public Health, with additional faculty support from Dr. Jean Marie Calvo, Dr. Lisa Berens, Dr Kirstin Hoeft and Dr. Cristin Kearns. We are all very excited for the opportunity this grant provides for making a positive impact on children in need!

Dr. Jean Marie Calvo, a 2020 UCSF pediatric dental graduate, is overjoyed to have been hired as a full time faculty at UCSF in-part because of the opportunities brought about by this grant. She was instrumental in the writing of the grant application and is excited to see it come to fruition. Dr. Calvo plans to use her training and experience in public health synergistically with her training in pediatric dentistry to enrich the resident learning experience with a focus on public health, prevention and access to high quality dental care.



