



UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO  
FACULTY OF DENTISTRY

150



**DEAN'S  
ANNUAL REPORT  
2024–2025**

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

---

04 **STUDENTS**

---

06 **ALUMNI + DONORS**

---

12 **CLINICS + PATIENTS**

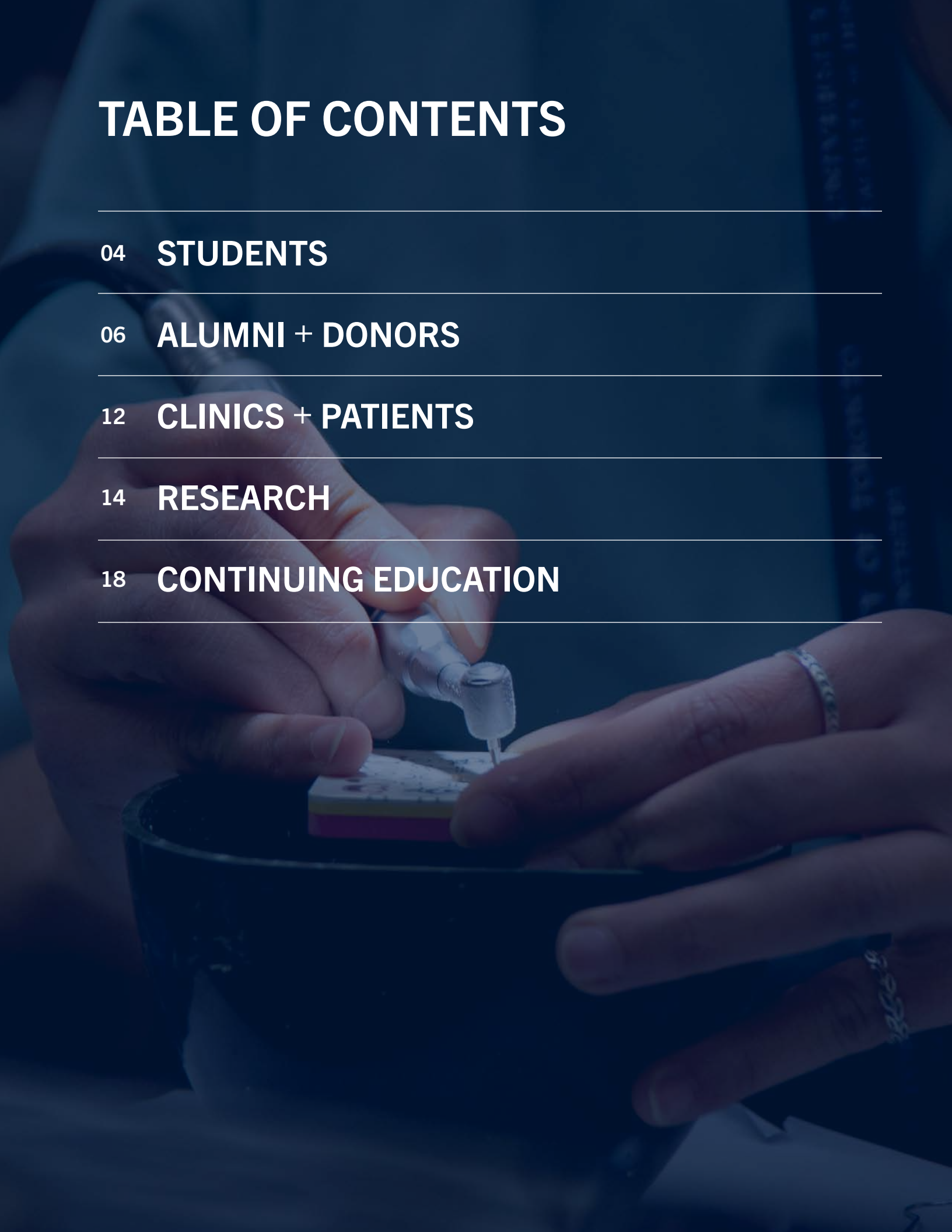
---

14 **RESEARCH**

---

18 **CONTINUING EDUCATION**

---



---

# A MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN



---

**This eighth edition of the Dean’s Annual Report covers the 2024–25 year, an era that was led by Interim Dean Laura Tam. I am honoured to deliver this report in my new role as Dean of the Faculty of Dentistry.**

Under Dean Tam’s leadership, the Faculty kicked off its 150th anniversary year — celebrating this milestone with a reflection on the past, acknowledgment of the present and look ahead to the future. Our community came together for this special anniversary with our Great Alumni Event and 150th Open House. It was a pleasure to see hundreds of our alumni family reminiscing about their memories of dental school and experiencing the upgrades that our Faculty has undergone.

One of those monumental changes is the renovation to Clinic 2, our largest patient clinic. Thanks to a generous donation from the Rossy Foundation, this \$40-million project will help us reimagine our building. The new space will include a mix of 75 open and closed operatories with a modern design and equipment to mirror what students will experience working in private practice after graduation.

Changes like these are what allow us to be considered among the best dental schools globally. In fact, the Faculty of Dentistry was once again ranked as the top dental school in Canada and 24th in the world, according to the ShanghaiRanking 2024 Academic Ranking of World Universities.

Our excellence is largely because of the exceptional faculty and staff that work with us. This year, many of them received noteworthy promotions and awards. Vanessa Mendes earned continuing status and promotion to Associate Professor, teaching stream and Majid Zakeri was appointed Assistant Professor, teaching stream, part time in Prosthodontics. Marco Magalhaes and Ana Vasconcelos

were the recipients of Bruce Hord Master Teaching Awards and James Posluns received the W.W. Wood Award for excellence in dental education from the Association of Canadian Faculties of Dentistry.

David Berrio, Lucy Ferraro and Anna Pullano were the recipients of the 2025 Mary Choi Staff Excellence Awards, which recognize their outstanding professionalism, teamwork, service and contributions to the workplace.

Our Faculty held several events this year in addition to the 150th celebrations. Research Day and Education Day highlighted the Faculty’s commitment to the incredible work being done by our student researchers and dental educators. Our community once again enjoyed the Dentantics live production and the Dentistry Hockey Club hosted Western University for the annual Ontario Dental Association Cup. Both events displayed the many talents of our student body outside of the classroom.

As I reflect on this past year, I eagerly anticipate the next five years with the privilege of leading this incredible school. I hope you enjoy reading about the accomplishments of the Faculty in this report and continue to follow our journey into the next 150 years of excellence in dental education.

---

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anil Kishen'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. Below the signature is a horizontal line.

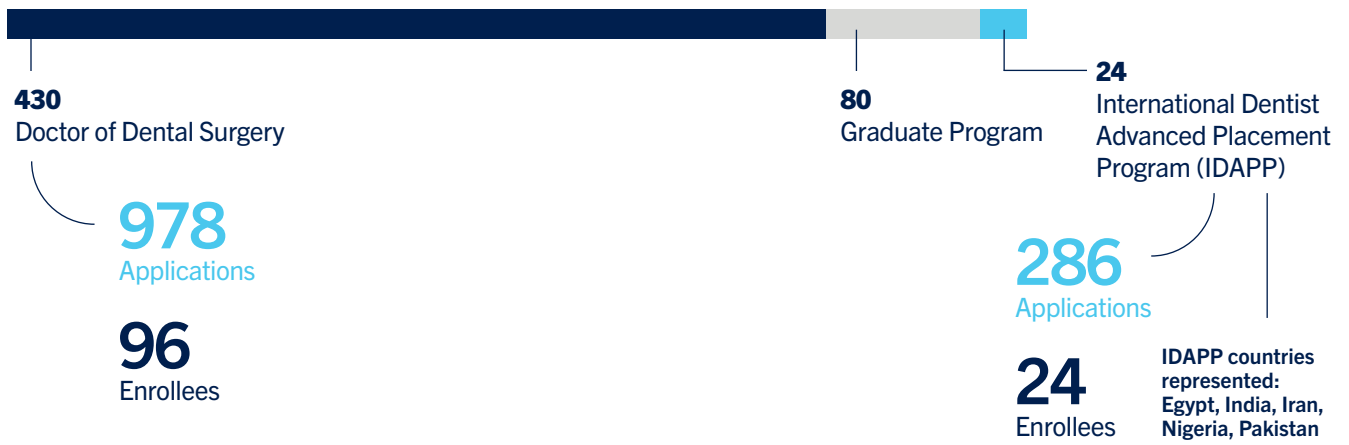
**Anil Kishen** BDS, MDS, PhD  
Professor and Dean  
Arthur Zwingenberger Decanal Chair

# STUDENTS

Year after year, the Faculty of Dentistry attracts top student talent. In 2024, Doctor of Dental Surgery applications increased by an incredible 32 per cent (compared to a nine per cent increase the previous year). The Faculty also

continues to see a strong pool of applications to our 10 graduate specialty programs. This year, we received 286 graduate applications, an increase of 35 per cent over the previous year.

## ■ TOTAL STUDENT POPULATION 2024



## ■ GRADUATE STUDIES

■ APPLICATIONS

■ ACCEPTED

Dental Anaesthesia	Dental Public Health	Endodontics	Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery	Oral Pathology & Medicine
<b>8</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>
Oral Radiology	Orthodontics	Pediatric Dentistry	Periodontology	Prosthodontics
<b>24</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>

# STUDENT FUNDING 2024–25

## BURSARIES

**\$172,347**

UNDERGRADUATE FUNDING

**\$41,000**

GRADUATE FUNDING

## AWARDS

**\$60,650**

UNDERGRADUATE FUNDING

**\$54,200**

GRADUATE FUNDING

## FINANCIAL AID

**\$458,000**

UNDERGRADUATE FUNDING

**\$342,000**

GUARANTEED FUNDING FROM GRADUATE DEPARTMENT

**\$394,500**

EXTERNAL GRADUATE FUNDING AND SCHOLARSHIPS TOTAL

## OTHER

**\$90,000**

ALUMNI OFFICE SUPPORT FOR STUDENT LIFE ACTIVITIES



# ALUMNI + DONORS

## *BUILDING THE FUTURE OF GOOD ORAL HEALTH FOR THE NEXT 150 YEARS*

### DENTISTRY



1875 – 2025

This year, the Faculty of Dentistry is celebrating the 150th anniversary of dental education. It is also the best fundraising year ever thanks to the support of the incredible Dentistry community, including a transformational

\$10-million gift from the Rossy Foundation to support the Clinic 2 renovation. To honour the alumni community and to mark this milestone anniversary, the Faculty hosted a joyous weekend of 150th activities. Starting with the Great Alumni Event at the Delta Hotel Toronto on Friday May 9

followed by the 150th Homecoming Open House on Saturday May 10 at the Faculty. More than 1,200 alumni, donors, students, faculty, instructors, staff and friends came together to celebrate this historic milestone and their own wonderful connections to the Faculty and their alumni community. What started as the Royal College of Dental Surgeons (RCDS) in 1875 with 11 students in a two-room school has evolved into the largest and most prestigious dental school in the country. We are deeply grateful to our alumni and donor community for their commitment to our mission and future and for their support in helping to build toward sustained excellence for the next 150 years.

## 8,571 in 49 countries

Total living alumni



## Snapshot: Donor Profiles

### A life-changing gift

The transformational gift from the Rossy Foundation to U of T Dentistry, matched with funding from the University of Toronto and support of many of our alumni, will help thousands of patients like David King (inset) by providing a new, modernized clinic that will offer excellent, affordable dental care to those who need it most.

“We are pleased to support this important initiative at the University of Toronto’s Faculty of Dentistry,” says Sara Pederson, Chief Program Officer of the Rossy Foundation.

**The future Rossy Clinic (Clinic 2) will not only increase access to excellent dental care but also improve overall health and quality of life for the thousands of patients who depend on the clinic, while supporting the education of the next generation of dentists.**



### Annual leadership giving



For well over a decade, Carolyn Blair, Class of 1992, has been supporting the Faculty of Dentistry. Through annual leadership gifts totalling more than \$30,000, she has supported the Faculty’s infrastructure and Annual Fund, among other priority initiatives, helping the Faculty’s efforts to realize its mission.

“I’m thrilled to give back to the University of Toronto Faculty of Dentistry, a place that laid the foundation for my incredible journey in dentistry,” says Blair.

**“Supporting the next generation with cutting-edge resources is my way of saying thank you, and investing in the future of a profession that touches every life. Together, we elevate our school and our profession.”**

\$352,338 Student Support

Programs and Research \$2,078,239

\$11,083,224 Capital Projects

Other \$494,401

TOTAL GIFTS:  
**\$14,008,202**

823 GIFTS

509 TOTAL DONORS

1,258 TOTAL UNIQUE ENGAGEMENTS:  
 (EVENT ATTENDANCE, DONATIONS, VOLUNTEERING, ETC.)

*Note: The reporting period extends from May 1, 2024, to April 30, 2025*

# Defy Gravity Campaign Annual Donor Listing

THE FACULTY IS GRATEFUL FOR THE DONORS WHO HAVE MADE CONTRIBUTIONS OF \$1,000 OR MORE. THE SUPPORT OF OUR COMMUNITY LIFTS OUR STUDENTS TO NEW HEIGHTS, ALLOWS US TO UPDATE OUR BUILDING AND EQUIPMENT, BOLSTERS EXCITING NEW RESEARCH AND SUPPORTS OUR PATIENTS. THANK YOU.



George and Christine  
Alexopoulos  
Alpha Omega  
Fraternity - Toronto  
Alumni Chapter  
American Orthodontics  
Corporation  
Greg Anderson  
Stephen Andrews  
Daniel Aquino  
John Aquino  
Ralph Aquino  
and Family  
Fatma Emel Arat  
Aurum Group  
Piya Bagchi  
Karen Y. Bai  
Megan Barnett  
Jordan S. Bender  
James Blackmore  
Carolyn E. Blair  
Tung Bao Bui  
Karen L. Burgess  
Canadian Foundation  
for the Advancement  
of Orthodontics  
Canerector Foundation  
Nelson Chan  
Brian Chanpong  
Sukhjeevan S. Chattha  
Rudy Darius  
Chiarandini  
Norma Chou  
George Christodoulou  
Credit Valley  
Oral Surgery  
Robert De Miglio  
Dr. D. Decloux  
Dentistry Professional  
Corporation  
Urbain M. Demaiter  
Dentsply Sirona Canada

DePuy Synthes Canada  
Natalie N. Dugas  
Selina Esteves  
Joseph Anthony  
Bernard Fava  
The Federation of  
Chinese Canadian  
Professionals (Ontario)  
Education Foundation  
Christopher Fenton  
Aaron Fenton  
James Fiege  
Stephen R. Flewelling  
Greig M. Florento  
Wilson Fong and  
Susy Lee Fong  
Chris Fraccaro  
Guido Galli  
Melvin F. Gardner  
Garth A. Gayle  
Peter Gioulos  
Siew-Ging Gong  
The Goziotis-Dunbar  
Family  
Helen Grad  
Ralph Grose  
Daniel A. Haas  
Elham Habibi  
Andrew Halford  
David Hanmer  
HANSAméd  
Mel Hawkins  
Henry Schein Canada  
Brian Hurd  
Katherine W. Ing  
Interface Centre for  
Oral and Maxillofacial  
Surgery  
International  
College of Dentists  
(Canadian Section)  
Ian Io  
Ka-Biu Ip  
Pedram Javedan  
Allan Jeffries  
Joonyoung Ji  
Jack Joe

Patricia Johnson  
Frank Kalamut  
Joanna Lynn Kennedy  
Adrienne E. Kertzer  
Gary William Keyes  
Stephen Koczerzinski  
Choo-Kar Kua  
Michael K. M. Lam  
Dina Lebowitz  
Yvonne and Allan Lee  
V. Cheryl Lee  
Benjamin Lin  
Robin D. Listrom  
LHM Dental Studios  
Edward Tsz Hin Liu  
Janice Lo and Eric Choi  
Gisella Lok  
Jacqueline López Gross  
George Lysyk  
Elizabeth MacSween  
Balint C. Magyar  
Terence Mah  
Caroline Maisonneuve  
Hackman  
Morris Manolson  
Ileana Martino  
Dorothy McComb  
Christopher McCulloch  
Ronan McGrath  
Taylor P. McGuire  
Thomas R. McIntyre  
Shahen Mirakian  
Arleen M. Morrin  
Kenneth Mui  
Janice Mummery  
David Neale  
Gail Neeteson  
Thelam Nguyen  
Nobel Biocare Canada  
M-Reza Nouri  
Mark and Janine  
Nusbaum, and Family  
Ontario Dental  
Association  
Oral Health Group  
Norman A. Orschel  
Garnet V. Packota

Juliana M. Paris  
The Estate of Isaac  
Parrott Asselstine  
Steven M. Partyka  
Arja-Liisa Peltoniemi  
Susanne Elizabeth  
Perschbacher  
Michael J. Pharoah  
Aly Phee  
Anuradha Prakki  
Danny J. Rain  
Michael C. Richer  
Kevin Roach  
Harold Rosenberg  
The Rossy Foundation  
Royal College of Dental  
Surgeons of Ontario  
Lynn Schumacher  
Mary Jane Scott  
Sonal Shah  
James Alexander  
Ronning Shearer  
Tammy Sipora Herzog  
Joe Stanziani  
Straumann Canada  
Limited  
Stryker Canada  
Study Club in the Six  
Gerald Sugiyama  
Michelle Lai Yee Tang  
Richard G L Thain  
Grace A. Thomas  
Elizabeth A. Tippet  
Keith Tittle  
Lynn Tomkins  
and Dan Kmiecik  
Peter T. Tonisson  
Heman Tsang  
Andrew Robert Warman  
West Toronto  
Dental Society  
Victor Wong  
William Wing-Bill Wong  
Katherine Zettle  
Zimmer Biomet  
Khai-Nhu Zweig  
10 anonymous donors

## Life-to-Date \$1M donors

Philanthropists who have donated \$1 million or more to the Faculty of Dentistry in their lifetime have positively impacted the school's standing as a global leader and are enabling the Faculty's ongoing mission. The Faculty proudly acknowledges their contributions and commitment to advancing the future of good oral health through their dedication to education, research and patient care.

**CANERECTOR FOUNDATION  
LLOYD AND KAY CHAPMAN  
GEORGE CHRISTODOULOU  
MICHAEL GLOGAUER  
GREENSHIELD  
THE ESTATE OF NORMA F. HARRON**

**THE ESTATE OF WANDA KAMIENSKI  
CHRISTOPHER MCCULLOCH  
NOBEL BIOCARE  
THE ROSSY FOUNDATION  
ARTHUR R. ZWINGENBERGER**

## Bequest Donors

These donors have notified U of T Dentistry of their confirmed bequests this year. We're grateful to be remembered in this meaningful way.

**CHRISTOPHER MCCULLOCH**

## Thank You

*Listing encompasses donations in fiscal year May 1, 2024, to April 30, 2025. We strive to properly recognize each donor. Please contact Julia Al Akaila at [julia.alakaila@dentistry.utoronto.ca](mailto:julia.alakaila@dentistry.utoronto.ca) or at 416-864-8202 with any updates or preferences.*





## Defy Gravity Campaign Cabinet 2024–2025

These volunteers are actively supporting the school to ensure our future success through the Defy Gravity Campaign:

Elizabeth MacSween – Chair  
Bobby Chagger  
Susanna Chow  
George Christodoulou

Jack Gerrow  
Gary Glassman  
Michael Glogauer  
Christopher McCulloch

Lynn Tomkins  
Bruno Vendittelli

## Arbor Award Winners 2024–2025

Recognizing sustained and exceptional community volunteerism:

Bobby Chagger

Norma Chou

Joel Rosenbloom

## Alumni of Influence Award Winners 2024–2025

Recognizing outstanding contributions to the profession and the community:

Harry Höediono

Tina Meisami

Bruce Pynn

---

# CLINICS + PATIENTS

The renovation to Clinic 2 – The Rossy Clinic – is the next example of the Faculty upgrading its facilities in order to provide the best in both student learning and patient care. The new space will include undergraduate as well specialty clinics, open and closed operatories with enhanced radiographic capacity and dedicated accessible

operatories. The planned renovations also include a complete overhaul of the patient reception areas, including the addition of an elevator to improve accessibility and way-finding. In all of its clinics, the Faculty continues to serve patients who experience access barriers to dental care and continues to participate in the Canadian Dental Care Plan.



# Our Impact by the Numbers

Patient visits: 60,225  
New patient visits: 4,923



**2,337**

Visits to the Emergency Clinic



**551**

Implants



**1,745**

Pediatric patients



**5,230**

Cleanings



**14**

Clinics



**4,083**

Tooth extractions



**300**

DDS students working in clinics



**6,317**

Fillings



**50**

Postgraduate specialist students working in clinics



**235**

Braces



**58,245**

X-rays



**854**

Root canals

## What patients are saying:

“I’ve been a dedicated patient with the Faculty since 2000. The care is exceptional, and I particularly like the fact that the sessions are long so that the work doesn’t stretch across multiple short visits. The fact that there are many very experienced instructors on hand to oversee every step makes for foolproof diagnosis and execution.”

– PETER

“I’m thankful to the Faculty of Dentistry and am privileged to have experienced their professionalism. I truly needed reassurance the professors gave me when I arrived with a damaged, swollen face left from a previous treatment. I consider it my privilege and a great honour to have the opportunity to recommend the Faculty of Dentistry and can’t speak highly enough of U of T! Only U of T could successfully surgically remove material from my sinuses and literally leave me with a beautiful smile on my face thanks to the dean, the professors, Dr. Posluns and the grad ortho clinic. The wonderfully well-trained and knowledgeable students I can trust again to have dental work performed are why I’m still a patient here!”

– JANET

“A friend with a new bright smile highly recommended that I sign up. I have enjoyed meeting the dedicated young people studying dentistry and learning to work with a wide variety of people. The care, good manners and the excellent work included saving a back molar that has given me years of good chewing!”

– MARION

Note: The reporting period extends from July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025



## RESEARCH

The Faculty's researchers had another productive year with more than \$5 million in research funding and 200 published peer-reviewed papers. Authors of many of these papers were also honoured this year. In recognition of Professor Paul Santerre's outstanding research and its translational impact, he was selected as a recipient

of an honorary degree from McMaster University's Faculty of Engineering. In addition, Santerre and Professor Yoav Finer's joint PhD student Zachary Gouveia was awarded a Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada Postdoctoral Fellowship award that he is now taking up at Harvard University.

TOTAL PUBLICATIONS

200

Total publications include disciplines outside of dentistry such as medicine and biochemistry, as well as other multidisciplinary publications

Data source: Scopus, retrieved on May 8, 2025

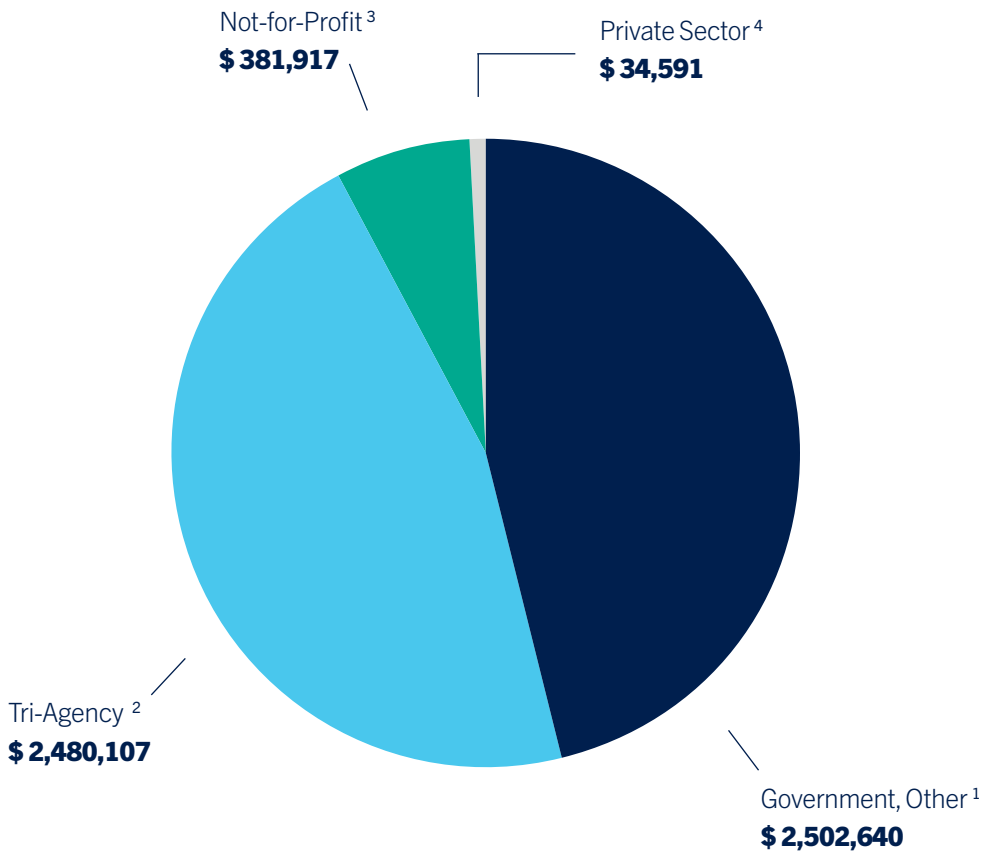
CITATIONS

332

Citations indicates how many times a specific work has been cited by other publications

TOTAL RESEARCH FUNDING:

\$ 5,399,255



<sup>1</sup> Federal and provincial funding agencies, such as Canadian Foundation for Innovation John R. Evans Leaders Fund, Ontario Research Fund – Early Researcher Awards, U.S. agencies such as National Institutes of Health

<sup>2</sup> Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), National Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC), Canada Research Chairs (CRC-CIHR and CRC-NSERC)

<sup>3</sup> Associations, academies, Ted Rogers Centre for Heart Research, Mitacs

<sup>4</sup> Canadian and multinational companies

---

# FEATURED PUBLICATIONS

Below is a snapshot of some of the papers published in 2024–2025. These papers showcase Dentistry’s broad research foci, which ranges from translational basic cell biology to materials science to clinical studies.

---

Christopher McCulloch et al.’s research paper “**Structure and function of vimentin in the generation and secretion of extracellular vimentin in response to inflammation**” appeared in *Cell Communication and Signaling* in 2025.

The McCulloch Lab, in collaboration with Nanjing and Pennsylvania Universities, discovered that vimentin —

a protein usually found inside cells — takes on a different role when secreted into the extracellular space. Their research shows that extracellular vimentin plays a key role in triggering and sustaining inflammation, especially in periodontitis. Understanding how vimentin is released by stromal and immune cells could open up new possibilities for diagnosing and treating inflammatory diseases.

**Impact Factor: 8.3\***

---

Paul Santerre and Yoav Finer et al.’s research paper “**Development of Functional and Hydrolytically Stable Vinyl Monomers as Methacrylate Dental Resin Restorative Alternatives**” appeared in *Advanced Health Care Materials* in 2025.

The Finer and Santerre labs developed a highly biostable resin monomer resistant to hydrolysis in the oral cavity. The invention is undergoing patent approval, and a major U.S. dental materials manufacturer is assessing its potential as a durable adhesive due to its seamless integration into dental workflows.

**Impact Factor: 10\***

---

Paul Santerre and Michelle Bendeck’s research paper “**Synthesis, characterization, and surface modification of degradable polar hydrophobic ionic polyurethane nanoparticles for the delivery of therapeutics to vascular tissue**” appeared in *Acta Biomaterialia* in 2024.

The researchers developed an immune-modulating nanoparticle system that delivers peptides, proteins and

gene-editing material. Unlike current vascular disease treatments that harm all cells in the vessel wall, a mimetic peptide delivered using this system prevented smooth muscle cell migration while allowing normal blood vessel healing. The therapy is undergoing patent review, with commercialization efforts underway.

**Impact Factor: 9.4\***

---

Boris Hinz et al.’s research paper “**Fibroblast and myofibroblast activation in normal tissue repair and fibrosis**” appeared in *Nature Reviews Molecular Cell Biology* in 2024.

Boris Hinz et al.’s research paper “**Fibrosis: cross-organ biology and pathways to development of innovative drugs**” appeared in *Nature Reviews Drug Discovery* in 2025.

The Hinz Lab’s research on fibroblast activation and fibrosis was recently published in two prestigious scientific journals. The articles clarify the molecular mechanisms behind fibroblast activation, which leads to tissue stiffening and organ failure. Their findings highlight the complex nature of fibroblasts and challenge prior assumptions. Since fibrosis remains a major global health issue with no cure, the lab is now investigating specific cell activation mechanisms to develop new therapeutic strategies.

**Impact Factor: 81.4\* and 122.8\***

---



Anuradha Prakki et al.'s research paper “**Inaugural findings on diversity, equity, and inclusion in Canadian Dental Academia**” appeared in the *Journal of Dental Education* in 2025.

This study assessed the diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) climate in Canadian dental and dental hygiene academic institutions using data from the 2022 American Dental Education Association survey. While participants

generally perceived a neutral to slightly positive workplace environment, many reported experiencing or witnessing discrimination and harassment. The findings highlight the need for systemic reforms, including improved reporting mechanisms, cultural competence training and inclusive programming, setting a benchmark for future DEI initiatives in dental education.

**Impact Factor: 1.4\***

Anil Kishen et al.'s research paper “**Deciphering 3D periodontal fibroblast-macrophage crosstalk in bioactive nanoparticle-guided immunomodulation for treating traumatic dental avulsion**” appeared in *Bioactive Materials* in 2024.

This study showed that multifunctional engineered nanoparticles regulated immune cell-precursor cell cross-talk to inhibit root resorption and ankylosis following dental traumatic injuries.

**Impact Factor: 20.3\***

Amir Azarpazhooh, Anil Kishen and Gavik Malkhassian et al.'s five-part research papers “**Development of a Core Outcome Set in Endodontics (COS-ENDO)**” all appeared in the *Journal of Endodontics* in 2025.

The COS-ENDO initiative standardizes outcome measurement in endodontic research across various treatments, improving study comparability and evidence-based

decision-making. Developed through a consensus-driven approach that values diverse perspectives, it promotes equity and inclusion in oral health research. Supported by the American Association of Endodontists and the Foundation for Endodontics, COS-ENDO aims to create high-quality datasets that could shape public health strategies and future care models.

**Impact Factor: 3.5\***

*\*Impact Factor is the relative importance of a journal within its field; journals with higher impact factor values are given the status of being more important, or carry more prestige in their respective fields*

# CONTINUING DENTAL EDUCATION

The Faculty's Continuing Dental Education (CDE) department strives to stay current with the ever-evolving profession of dentistry. Our CE-accredited, expert-led

courses provide our community with education and training in live, in-person and online formats, allowing participants to take their dental professional skills to the next level.

## CDE COURSES

87

Total number  
of courses  
offered

Total  
number of  
participants

1,819

## UTOOTH.CA (ONLINE PLATFORM)

43

Total number  
of utooth.ca  
courses  
offered

Total number  
of courses  
purchased

8,217

*Note: The reporting period extends from July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025*

## 2024–2025 course participant testimonials

“I have the required education, training and skills help me practice with confidence.”

“I enjoyed the weekend and this course so much. Day one was just as interesting as day three, it was well organized with so much good information. Thank you!”



UNIVERSITY  
OF  
TORONTO  
FACULTY  
OF  
DENTISTRY

# STAY CONNECTED

 Faculty of Dentistry | University of Toronto

 University of Toronto Faculty of Dentistry

 @uoftdentistry



UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO  
FACULTY OF DENTISTRY

**EDITOR**

Rachel Boutet

**PHOTOGRAPHY**

Jeff Comber

**COVER**

Jeff Comber

**DESIGN**

Fresh Art & Design Inc.

124 Edward Street  
Toronto, ON  
M5G 1G6

[WWW.DENTISTRY.UTORONTO.CA](http://WWW.DENTISTRY.UTORONTO.CA)