COMMISSION ON DENTAL ACCREDITATION
SITE VISIT: APRIL 3-5, 2018
Message from the Dean

It is an exciting time here at Temple Dental as we prepare for the arrival of the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA). The site visit will take place from April 3 to 5 and we look forward to sharing extensive information on our school with our visitors. I hope our CODA visitors are able to observe our committed faculty and staff, our hard-working students, and our commitment to providing advanced dental care to our community.

With everything else happening, it is important we take time to recognize those who deserve it. Specifically, Dr. Maria Fornatora, Mr. John Moore, Mr. Jeremy Hall, the academic affairs office staff, and the faculty and staff who worked hard to write the CODA self-study. I know preparations for CODA have been a rigorous process, and I am very grateful for everyone’s contribution during this time. I cannot thank you all enough for everything you do for the School.

I am honored to work alongside our impressive faculty and students. On February 18, I had the pleasure of attending the Temple University Men’s Basketball game during which Dr. Mustafa Badi and Dr. Marisol Tellez-Merchán were recognized by the Office of the Provost. Additionally, I invite you to read about Sasha Sherry, a 4th year DMD student. Sasha is one of our dedicated students with a unique background.

As we continue towards a successful future, we are thrilled our outstanding alumni have stuck to their roots in Philadelphia. Dr. Robert Bagramian ('60) made a bequest of $700,000 to his scholarship fund, and Dr. Kim Lyvan ('90) gave back to honor those who keep our school beautiful.

I am pleased to announce the Jessie Ball duPont Fund has awarded us funding for Community-Based Dental Services that will allow us to expand our pediatric dental care. Congratulations to our school dedicated to education and clinical care for this significant achievement.

Finally, my door is always open, and I invite you to share your suggestions and comments whenever you feel necessary.

Amid I. Ismail
Dean, Laura H. Carnell Professor
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MISSION

The Kornberg School of Dentistry promotes health through the education of diverse general and specialty dentists; provides comprehensive, patient-centered, evidence-based and outcome-driven oral health care; and, engages in research, scholarly activities and community service.

VISION

We shape the future by educating oral health professionals who are leaders in providing ethical, scientifically-based and quality oral health.
STUDENT FEATURE SASHA SHERRY

We know our Kornberg students have the drive to succeed in everything they do, but Sasha Sherry is a fourth year DMD student with a story to be told. Before setting her eyes on Temple, Sasha was busy perfecting her career in women’s ice hockey. During her undergrad at Princeton, she was named the first female All-American for the sport. In 2010, she was invited to try-out for the 2010 Olympic team, and she finished with a ranking of 10 for her position with the top 8 earning an Olympic team spot. Sasha isn't stuck in the past, though. Read our interview with her below to learn more about her bright future.

Did you always think you'd go to dental school? What brought you here?
I grew up spending a lot of time in my father’s general dentistry office because it was an extension of our home and I was home schooled for a few years of my primary education. I became very close with his staff and loved to shadow him. His kind and reassuring demeanor and the way he spoke to patients always amazed me. I truly wanted to have that type of effect on the people I interacted with, and I wanted to make a positive impact on their health and wellness.

Many outlets in medicine interested me initially, but after carefully considering veterinarian school and exercise science, I ultimately landed back where I was most familiar in dentistry. I was a little reluctant at first to follow in my father’s footsteps because I was concerned it would be viewed as taking the easy route. However, I set my stubbornness aside and embraced the fact that this profession entirely suits my personality, skill set, and passions.

I spent three years after graduating from Princeton in 2011 finishing a few more pre-requisites, working in my father’s office in a variety of positions, and coaching ice hockey. Before I committed myself to the application process, I was seeing how far ice hockey could take me while on the US women’s national ice hockey team. I began playing when I was eight and it has been one of my loves ever since. I had dreams of going to the Olympics and wanted to dedicate myself to achieving that before I set my sights on dental school. Ultimately, I came up a little short, and when my time with the national team ended, all of my focus went to establishing myself as an attractive dental school applicant.

What do you love most about the DMD program at Temple?
When I did my interview at Temple and learned that the program has some of the highest clinical requirements, I knew it would be my first choice. I wanted to graduate with as much clinical experience as possible.

Which specialty are you interested in? Why are you interested in it?
General dentistry is where my heart lies because I enjoy the variety, the longtime relationships to be built with patients, and the ability to be a little selective about cases depending on difficulty.

How have you grown as an individual and as a professional since coming to school here?
In my time here, I have enjoyed learning from various part-time faculty who share their unique clinical expertise with us. There are so many different approaches to doing dentistry and I really appreciate the wide range of techniques and opinions we have access to. I have become much more confident in my decision-making and clinical skills. I look back and laugh at how long it used to take me to do some procedures.

What do you hope to do after graduation?
I plan to work in one of my dad’s offices when I graduate as a general dentist, so having the opportunity to improve my skills across a wide range here has been indispensable. We are required to spend significant time in the oral surgery, pediatric, and emergency clinics which has been important to my growth as a clinician.

What’s one thing you’d like future, incoming students to know about Temple?
I think incoming students should know they will work very hard, and at times it may seem impossible to get everything completed, but in the end, they will be more prepared as they enter the real world. The learning never stops, and it is OK to make mistakes - through the struggle we gain strength.

Anything you’d like our alumni to know?
I would like alumni to know that they can make a huge difference to our experiences here with just a small contribution. Every school needs something or another and they can relate to how difficult achieving your diploma and license can be. We also enjoy hearing about the transition from dental school into practice so if any alumni are interested in sharing their stories and advice it would be warmly welcomed.
On Sunday, February 18, faculty members Dr. Mustafa Badi and Marisol Tellez-Merchán were recognized by the Office of the Provost at the men’s basketball game against the University of Houston. Drs. Badi and Tellez-Merchán celebrated with their families, additional faculty, alumni, and Dean Ismail.

**SCIENCE IN DENTAL PRACTICE DAY**

**Poster Presentation Winners**

**PREDOCTORAL CATEGORY**
Ashley Nelson, Asma Husienzad, Sarah Esmaili
"Human Papillomavirus Vaccinations in the Dental Setting"
Faculty / Mentors: M. Tellez-Merchán, V. Bhoopathi

**POSTDOCTORAL CATEGORY**
Kay Chung
"ENPP1 and ESR1 Genotypes Associate with Subclassifications of Craniofacial Asymmetry and Severity of TMD"
Faculty / Mentors: T. Richards, R. Nicot, A. Vieira, C. Cruz, G. Raoul, J. Ferri, J. Sciote

**CRITICAL CASE REVIEW/SYSTEMATIC REVIEW**
Paige Backenstose, Sasha Sherry
"Is there evidence for preferred, fluoride-releasing, proximal liner/base materials for posterior class 2 composite restorations?: A systematic review and clinical considerations"
Faculty / Mentor: S. Jefferies

**FACULTY**
Dr. Thomas Rams
"Antibiotic resistance changes in periodontal Parvimonas micra over 10 years."
Co-Authors: J. Sautter, A. Van Winkelhoff
ALUMNUS SPONSORS FACILITIES STAFF APPRECIATION LUNCHEON

It’s not easy to keep our school clean, but this isn’t a new job for those in facilities. Some of our facilities workers have a secret: they’ve been working at Temple University for over 30 years.

Dr. Kim Lyvan ('90), who worked overnight as a janitor before attending Kornberg, decided to give back and honor those who work so hard to keep the School beautiful.

At a recent luncheon made possible by Dr. Lyvan, the workers came together to enjoy lunch and reminisce about their years at Temple. “I really learned to love my job,” said Rosalyn Carter, who has worked all over the University for the past 31 years.

After 26 years, Deborah Johnson will be retiring soon. Johnson met her husband here 25 years ago, and they celebrated their 20th anniversary this year. Carter and Johnson’s stories aren’t unique, though. Many of the workers have left their mark on the University.

Dr. Lyvan’s donation will be put towards providing more catered meals for the facilities workers. The luncheon held on February 14 was the first event for the daytime shift. On March 12, a dinner will be held for those who work at the school after hours.

MEET THE NEW MEMBERS OF THE KORNBERG FAMILY

Staff

Arnetta Honesty – Billing Representative  
Bharat Chauhan – Billing Representative  
Levi Dillon – Marketing Coordinator  
Kristen VanLeer – Marketing Coordinator  
Sheila Fanning – Dental Hygienist, AEGD & FDP  
Ornela Collaku – Clerk IV, Orthodontics  
Leslye Jordan – Sr. Clinical Manager, Perido & Endo  
Nathalee Dillon – Dental Assistant II, FDP  
Kristen Keegan – Dental Assistant II, Oral Surgery  
Tierra Reed – Clerk IV, Instrument Management Service  
Jade Ray – Receptionist / Scheduling, AEGD

Faculty

Dr. Santiago Orrego will join the School as an assistant professor on the tenure track. He will start a new program of research on smart dental biomaterials. Dr. Orrego is currently a postdoctoral research fellow at Johns Hopkins, and he received his PhD in Mechanical Engineering from University of Maryland Baltimore County in 2015.
With West Philly roots, Kornberg alumnus keeps ‘loyalty’ to Temple

| Jane Yang | Originally Published in The Temple News |

Every day after he finished his classes in the 1950s, Robert Bagramian, D.D.S. (60), Ph.D. commuted home from the Health Sciences Campus to work in his father's shoe repair shop in Overbrook, a working-class West Philadelphia neighborhood. In that community, very few people had gone to college, Bagramian said, and he didn't originally expect to either.

"If my parents did not sort of insist that I follow a certain path, I would probably have either quit high school, or graduated from high school and would have started working someplace," Bagramian said. "But they insisted that I go to college."

Bagramian, a 1960 dentistry alumnus, recently donated $700,000 to the Kornberg School of Dentistry through his Armen and Isabelle Bagramian Scholarship Fund, named in honor of his parents. He previously donated several thousand dollars to the fund, which awards scholarships to a handful of students each year.

For Bagramian's parents, both Armenian immigrants, education was the most important thing they could offer him.

"In a sense, they were somewhat typical immigrants in that they recognized that they had to work hard and maybe suffer," Bagramian said. "The important thing for their children to really make it in the world was they needed a good education."

Bagramian decided to attend Temple for its affordability and proximity to his home. Once at school, he discovered his interest in dentistry.

Because of Bagramian's years of work in his father's store, he knew he liked to work with his hands. He saw practicing dentistry as a way to do that.

"I worked with my hands when I worked with my father fixing shoes," Bagramian said. "[So] I liked all the intricate stuff that you do as a dentist."

Bagramian lived at home during his years as an undergraduate and in dental school, continuing to work with his father after classes ended for the day.

"Dental school was very difficult," Bagramian said. "It was a lot of pressure, but I really enjoyed the experience of treating patients and learning how to do dentistry."

After graduating from Kornberg, Bagramian has spent much of his career traveling around the world, providing dental consulting and education. He has primarily worked in dental public health, focusing on disease prevention.

He first worked as a dentist in the United States Army Dental Corps for two years and in South Carolina for a year before traveling to Taiwan for a three-year stint at a hospital. Bagramian said his experience volunteering at the hospital guided him into teaching.

"Their training at that point in time was not very good, so they asked me to share what I knew from the United States to the students there," Bagramian said. "It was really a rewarding experience."

Bagramian later spent time teaching in his parents' home country, Armenia. For the last eight years, he has traveled to the country a couple times per year to work with the American University of Armenia.

Because of his post-dental school experiences, Bagramian became interested in public health, and his career expanded. He then earned a master's in public health at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1967 and a Ph.D. in public health in 1969 from the University of Michigan, where he works as a professor today.

"I've been a professor for over 40 years at the University of Michigan," Bagramian said. "But my first loyalty is to Temple, because that's where I got started and that's where the opportunity was given to me."

Most of Bagramian's research examines topics related to public health, like how to improve accessibility to dental care.

"In your life, you always come to a crossroads, and you always have to make a decision," Bagramian said. "And I've had lots of those decisions. I've been fortunate in that every time I made one of those decisions, it took me on the path I wanted."

Adrian Gonzalez, a first-year student at Kornberg, learned about a month ago that he had received a one-time scholarship for $2,500 from the Armen and Isabelle Bagramian Scholarship Fund.

"Graduate school is expensive for any career you want to go into, whether it's medical or a Ph.D. program," Gonzalez said. "It's very expensive, so anything from any source is very much appreciated."

When Bagramian attended Temple in the 1950s, he recalls how inexpensive tuition was compared to today. With his donation to Kornberg, Bagramian said he wants to alleviate some of that burden.

"I want to make a little bit of a difference," Bagramian added. "I want to show my thanks to an institution that made it possible for me to be where I am today."
Established in 2017, The Temple University Dental Sedation Center is a state-of-the-art facility located on the first floor of Temple Dental’s old building. The center’s trained dentists and experienced staff perform dental treatment for those who want or need to be asleep for dental procedures. A sedation plan will be tailored to your needs or the needs of your child.

Find out more about the Temple University Dental Sedation Center at our website: dentistry.temple.edu/sedationcenter or call 215-707-9400

UPCOMING EVENTS

- AAE Annual Meeting | April 25-28
- White Coat Ceremony | May 4
- Reunion Weekend | May 4-5
- AAO Annual Session | May 4-8
- DMD Graduation | May 18
- Legacy Day | June 22
- Perio Graduation | June 29
- Endo Graduation | July 20
- Ortho Graduation | August 25

UPCOMING CE COURSES

Medical Emergencies in the Dental Office
by Dr. Andrea Bell, Dr. Allen Fielding
and Dr. Stanley Heleniak
March 28, 2018 | 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Choosing Our Abutments
by Dr. Steven Present
April 4, 2018 | 9 a.m. - noon

Quintessential Anterior Esthetic Concepts and Procedures (HANDS ON)
by Dr. Steven Weinberg
April 20, 2018 | 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Registration, questions, full course descriptions and speakers bios can be found on our website at: dentistry.temple.edu/continuing-ed
Phone: 215-707-7541
Email: ncarreno@temple.edu