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## Herman Ostrow School of Dentistry of USC

[11/5/2021]



### DEAN'S BI-WEEKLY MESSAGE

Dear USC Dentistry Community:

Last weekend, we held our Homecoming 2021 festivities, with a mixture of virtual and live events. Virtually, our **Office of Alumni Relations and Events** held a trivia night, a 5-K walk/run and a series of continuing education courses. On the in-person side, a number of Trojan Dental Family Members attended the USC Associates Picnic in Founders Park. I'd like

to thank all who participated in these events, whether virtually or in-person. I'd also like to acknowledge **Dr. Kamal al-Eryani**, **Dr. Glenn Clark**, **Dr. Cheryl Park** and **Dr. Jin-Ho Phark** for leading these continuing education courses. I realize your time is finite and valuable, so it means a lot that you'd take the time to share your expertise with our community. I hope that next year we will be able to celebrate Homecoming Weekend entirely in-person.

While I'm on the subject of Continuing Education, our Director of Continuing Education **Dr. Alon Frydman** recently dropped the latest episode of the *Louped In* podcast series, titled "You Don't Know What You Don't Know." The episode features a conversation between Alon and Department Co-Chair of Diagnostic Sciences, Anesthesia and Emergency Medicine **Dr. James Tom**, discussing a pediatric case (which did not take place here) wherein "Joey," a 5-year-old patient, suffers a fatal overdose from a local anesthetic. While it's certainly tough subject matter to get through, it's a very compelling listen, and I urge you to check it out if you have the time. [You can find it here](#). *Louped In* is the official podcast of the Office of Continuing Education, but it's not the only Ostrow-centric podcast. You can also check out *Pain Know-How*, a joint podcast between Ostrow and the Keck School of Medicine of USC, as well as *OstrowTalk*, our student- and faculty-run podcast series. Both feature content that would be of some interest to our community members. [You can find them — plus many other USC podcasts — here](#).

Earlier this week, a feature story about the new Ostrow Sustainability Group went out on social media. The story, titled "Ostrow Goes Green," details the work that began with an MBA project by **Dr. Yaara Berdan** and eventually led to the creation of a new student group, led by **Ms. Natalie Black** and Dr. Berdan, which aims to make the dental profession more ecologically friendly. It's an incredibly laudable initiative, and given USC President **Dr. Carol Folt**'s dedication to sustainability, it's something we'll continue to hear more about in the coming years. [You can find that feature story here](#). As an aside, you might have seen the group started a month-long beauty take-back and recycling program, accepting all brands of cosmetic packaging, with a recycling station in the East Lobby. If you get a chance, stop by and find out what items can be recycled, and drop off your items.

Finally, on the topic of student clubs, I would like to acknowledge the **Hispanic Student Dental Association**, who, earlier this week, participated in the 24th Street Theatre Día de los Muertos Health and Wellness Fair. During the event, the students were able to distribute 280 oral health kits, which included a toothbrush, toothpaste, educational materials and information about becoming a patient here at Ostrow. Thank you to HSDA faculty

advisor **Mr. Carlos Sanchez** as well as HSDA President **Mr. Jose Acevedo**, HSDA Vice President **Ms. Taylor Schmelz**, HSDA Secretary **Mr. Lucero Barillas Guadalupe** and HSDA Community Outreach Chair **Mr. Francisco Ramirez** for their efforts in representing Ostrow so well in our community.

With that, I wish you all a great weekend.

Stay safe, stay healthy and, as always, fight on!

*Avishai*

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