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Dear USC Dentistry Community,

We recently held our first onsite ASPID interviews since COVID upended our lives three-plus years ago. Our **Office of Admissions** met with a number of incredibly bright, talented international dentists who will eventually comprise the

ASPID Class of 2026. I'd like to thank all of the **faculty members** who took part in the two-day interview plus **Corey Berry**, **Elmer Duran**, **Vivian Amaya**, **Silvestre Guzman**, **Chris Camacho** and the **teaching assistants** and **student ambassadors** whose support made the process run seamlessly.

One of our students, **Lior Colina** DDS '27, was recently awarded a scholarship from the National Hispanic Health Foundation, which is the philanthropic arm of the National Hispanic Medical Association. These prestigious awards are meant to recognize students' remarkable academic achievements, dedication and exemplary character. Additionally, the scholarship serves as a testament to the high standards of education upheld at our university, the award letter read. So, please join me in congratulating Lior. Thank you for making USC look so good!











SCARING UP PRIZES

The halls of Norris Dental Science Center were a bit more fascinating than usual on Tuesday as Ostrow students, residents, faculty and staff came dressed for Halloween. Ostrow's **Talent Acquisitions Team** held costume and office decorating contests. Prizes went to **George Rosado** (top) for individual best costume; **Maria Hidalgo**, **Sindy Herrera**, **Diana Mondorf-Pineda**, **Maria Ocegueda** and **Griselda Vega** (middle) for best group costume; and the Billing Office's Fernanda Cervantes, Sarah Ives, Tara Lam, Jai Makhija and **Jacqueline Juarez** (bottom) for best office decoration. Congratulations all!

You might have seen **USC President Carol Folt**'s <u>2023 Winter Recess Update</u>, where she announced that Winter Recess will be extended this year in recognition of our hard work and dedication. Winter Recess will begin on Thursday, December 21, 2023 and continue until Tuesday, January 2, 2024, with a return to work scheduled for January 3, 2024. And for those of you who are future planners, she also extended the July 4 holiday to take place on both July 4 and July 5, 2024.

With that, I wish you all a relaxing Homecoming Weekend.

Fight On!

Avishai Sadan, DMD, MBA Dean G. Donald and Marian James Montgomery Professor of Dentistry



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