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Herman Ostrow School of Dentistry of USC

[12/08/2023]



DEAN'S MESSAGE

Dear USC Dentistry Community,

This afternoon, we complete the third and final day of administering the mock ADEX exam for the DDS and ASPID Classes of 2024, preparing them for the actual ADEX examination in February. I'd like to thank **Anita Tourah** for her leadership in this effort as well as all the faculty members who took part. They

are **Gabriela Anderson, Nissim Benbassat, Howard Fleiner, Nazanin Forghani, Alena Knezevic, Lisa Lee, Stuart Lee** and **Mahvash Navazesh**. Your contributions are greatly appreciated.

Every month, the California Dental Association features a student from one of California's seven dental schools. This month's CDA Student Spotlight features Ostrow's own **Nora Papazyan**. In the spotlight, Nora shares how she overcomes personal setbacks, what her most memorable dental school experience has been and the most valuable advice she's ever received. You can check it out for yourself [here](#). Thank you, Nora, for making us look so good!

I just had a chance to read the next issue of *TroDent*, and I have to say I really enjoyed it. The cover story focuses on pediatric dentistry. Many will be impressed to learn that patients come from as far away as Las Vegas and Catalina Island because they've found a "dental home" here at USC. The **USC Pediatric Dentistry Community** is currently working to raise funds to completely renovate the pediatric dental clinic on the building's lower level to continue attracting the nation's best and brightest. There's also a story about USC dentistry's deep ties with the Korean American Dental Association (KADA), a professional organization founded in Southern California. It initially provided professional networking, continuing education and camaraderie for Korean-born dentists who immigrated to the United States. Today, its members are largely Korean American dentists. Fun fact: The vast majority of its presidents over the years have been USC alumni. I am very proud of our longstanding relationship with the organization. The issue has plenty of other content that is both informative and entertaining, and I look forward to its distribution later this month.

As a reminder, the Norris Dental Science Center will be inaccessible beginning tomorrow, December 9, through Tuesday, January 2, 2024. During that time, there will be no water available in the building. In addition to plumbing work, we will be upgrading the audio-visual equipment in the Blair Rooms, installing more security cameras throughout the building and installing new furniture in the West Lobby. I'd like to pre-emptively thank our **Facilities Team**, including **Marshall Miller** and **Jill Yoshimi**, who will be working throughout the break to ensure these enhancements are completed by the time we begin the Spring

Trimester.

With that, I wish you and yours a restful holiday break. I hope you get a chance to spend some quality time with your loved ones and come back energized for a busy Spring Trimester.

Fight On!

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