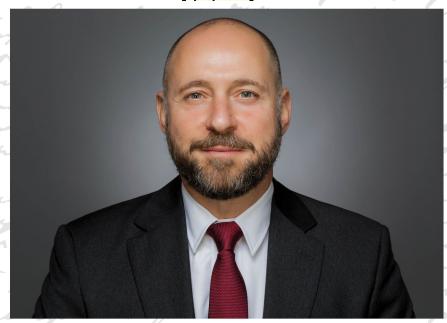
Herman Ostrow School of Dentistry of USC





DEAN'S MESSAGE

Dear USC Dentistry Community:

As we get further and further into the trimester, life gets busier and busier here at the Norris Dental Science Center.



GIVE KIDS A SMILE DAY

Earlier this week, our Neighborhood Mobile Dental Van Prevention Program helped celebrate National Give Kids a Smile Day (nestled snuggly in February, which is National Children's Dental Health Month) at Norwood Elementary School. In sum, Ostrow staff and students distributed 450 dental health kits and provided oral hygiene education to students. In addition, elementary students got to play oral health-focused games, spin a wheel to win a new book or toy and receive free dental cleanings, sealants and fluoride varnish. Thank you to all who participated, including **Elizabeth Brummel** and other Ostrow faculty members, including **Gardner Beale** and **Carlos Sanchez**; Ostrow staff members as well as the nearly 20 DDS/ASPID students who took part. You do great work preaching the gospel of good oral healthcare. Thank you for doing Ostrow proud.

(continued from above)

This coming weekend, our **second-year ASPID** and **fourth-year DDS students** will take their ADEX Dental Exam for their licenses to treat patients professionally once they finish their studies here at Ostrow. A lot of work goes into this preparing the school and our students for this examination. This year, we're holding the test earlier than before, so I'd like to thank all those who have adjusted their schedules to pull off this feat, allowing students to turn the page on this chapter of their professional journeys. Thanks to **Jill Yoshimi**, **Anita Tourah**, and the teams from **Facilities**, **IMS**, **Dispensary** and **Shipping and Receiving** as well as our **Student Ambassadors** for all of their efforts.

(continued below)



A SWEET GESTURE

On Valentine's Day, the **Ostrow Talent Acquisition Team** showed love and appreciation for our staff members with a variety of mouthwatering cookies (yes, even vegan!). In that spirit, I'd also like to offer my appreciation to all of our staff members; you are the lifeblood of this organization, and we couldn't do it without you. I'd also like to thank the Human Resources Team for spreading the holiday cheer. (Pictured L-R: **Joe Garcia**, **Renee Abumalhi**, **Jill Yoshimi**, **Irma Hernandez** and **Fabian Castro**)

(continued from above)

In the East Lobby, you might have noticed late last week that the **Chinese Dental Student Association (CDSA)** had put up a table commemorating the start of the Lunar New Year on February 10. The table gave curious onlookers further information about the New Year, an explanation about the red envelopes that are used for gifts, and traditional foods consumed on the holiday. I'd like to thank the CDSA for sharing a bit about the holiday, celebrated by nearly half the world's population, with the rest of us.

In honor of Black History Month, our **Student National Dental Association** has been hard at work, highlighting Black excellence on their Instagram (@usc_snda) and collaborating with the Herman Ostrow School of Dentistry of USC on certain posts. They've highlighted everyone from John and Vada Somerville, USC's first Black male and female dental graduates to poet Maya Angelou to young, up-and-comers like Herman Bekele (who developed a bar of soap to treat melanoma) and Alena Analeigh McQuarter (the youngest person to be accepted into medical school). I'd like to thank the SNDA as well as Ostrow's Assistant Dean for Diversity, Equity and Access **Kim Austin** for their efforts this month in educating us about Black History.

With that, I wish you all a relaxing Presidents' Day Weekend. For those taking

ADEX, best of luck and make us proud!

Fight On!

Avishai Sadan, DMD, MBA

Dean
G. Donald and Marian James Montgomery

Professor of Dentistry

Herman Ostrow School of Dentistry of USC









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Our mailing address is:

Herman Ostrow School of Dentistry of USC 925 W. 34th Street, DEN 201, Los Angeles, CA 90089

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