

2021/22 Department of Dentistry SRG-EC Annual Report



To: NCOHR Network for Canadian Oral Health Network
and the University of Alberta Department of Dentistry

Sep. 27, 2022

The 2021/2022 Department of Dentistry Student Research Group had the unique experience of planning for and executing a year of hybrid programming as the University of Alberta campus responded to the ongoing COVID-19 health crisis. Our goals this year were to make the return to in-person programming as smooth as possible for students doing research, while providing long-absent opportunities for live presentations and mixing with other students. This physical return to campus began in the fall, but was redirected online with fluctuating pandemic-related safety measures. By April of 2022, the committee had returned to physical meetings and we shifted to a more permanent on-campus presence.

This year, the Student Research Group hosted the first student-organized Day of Dentistry poster session on campus. For many students, this was their first opportunity to share their research performed at the School of Dentistry. For some, it was the first live presentation of their careers. This event was a great success, and paved the way for our next live event welcoming Dr. Antonio Nanci to the University of Alberta to present the annual prestigious Geoffrey H. Sperber lecture. The SRGEC also took this opportunity to organize a student networking luncheon with Dr. Nanci, forging career-long connections in a welcoming trainee environment. The simultaneous ACFD meeting enabled the University of Alberta SRGEC to connect with students from McGill University seeking guidance on establishing their own local SRG. As a result, our remaining virtual Career Mentorship events were well attended by McGill University trainees as well as our local School of Dentistry students. This partnership foreshadows a promising avenue for School of Dentistry trainee outreach in years to come.

This year's programming aimed to serve all pillars of student research in the department, though undergraduate students were less well represented in attendance than usual. Our recommendation to the 2022/23 SRGEC is to prioritize outreach to clinical undergraduate and graduate students, as well as continuing our efforts to rebuild the research community after several years of social flux. This year's on-campus committee, elected on September 26th, will be well positioned to continue the SRG's legacy of student fellowship and research support.

A summary of our 2021/22 events is as below, with listed expenditures for each event.

Date	Event	Budget	Description and comments
October 1 st , 2021	SRG 101 Presentation	\$0	Introduction to the Student Research Group for student members. <i>Suggestion: Event helpful after minimal attendance at Sept 26 SRG General Meeting.</i>
October 4 th , 2021	Research Poster Workshop Session 1: Design	\$0	Online session guiding students through poster design in preparation for FoMD research day. This session was online, and modestly attended. The FoMD Research Day was also hosted online, so students did not need physical posters. <i>Suggestion: Host this series prior to first in person poster session (eg Day of Dentistry).</i>

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October 8 th , 2021	Research Poster Workshop Session 2: Figures	\$0	Online 20 minute presentation and guided work period focused on preparing figures for research posters.
October 11 th , 2021	Research Poster Workshop Session 3: Introduction/ Methods	\$0	Online 20 minute presentation and guided work period to help students prepare the introduction and methodology portion of their research posters. <i>By the third session this year, we had only 2 attendees.</i> <u>Suggestion:</u> If this series is repeated, emphasis should be placed on attendance and advertising.
November 22 nd , 2021	Fall Faculty Research Mixer	\$0	Virtual faculty research mixer connecting students with faculty members seeking summer researchers. <i>This event was well attended and appreciated by both faculty and students. Emphasis for Winter mixer was on increasing awareness for the program and advertising potential projects.</i> <u>Suggestion:</u> Shift to in-person event. Prepare faculty summary document with possible projects/fields of interest.
February 10 th , 2022	Winter Faculty Research Mixer	\$0	Online networking event with a focus on logistics of the Summer Research program and what future undergraduate researchers need to know. <i>This event was well attended. Students requested additional information on projects available to them. Some undergraduate students reported not receiving an invitation.</i> <u>Suggestion:</u> Curate a list of all graduate students and undergraduate students in collaboration with the department to ensure that all emails are received by students. ListServ method has failed periodically.
March 24 th , 2022	Day of Dentistry Poster Session	\$222.50 (awards)	Live poster session in ECHA for all students conducting research in the School of Dentistry. Fulfills a requirement for Summer Researchers to present their research. Awards judged by faculty and postdoctoral fellows were administered by SRG. <i>This event was organized for the first time by the SRG. Organization and execution ran smoothly, and many students and faculty complimented the event.</i> <u>Suggestion:</u> Communication with the department and organization of volunteers is key for the success of this event.
April 11 th , 2022	First in-person meeting	\$41.26 (pizza)	First meeting on campus after exclusively virtual Zoom meetings. <i>Not well attended.</i>
May 27 th , 2022	Graduate Student Research Day	\$139.51 (awards)	First on-campus Graduate Student Research Day since 2019. 1 st and 2 nd year graduate students were required to present their work to faculty and trainees. Talks were given feedback by faculty members, and awards were given for highest scores. <i>Most students were able to present their work, though some were working remotely away from</i>

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			<p><i>Alberta. Despite reserving this date in advance, many students had to leave after their presentations to attend clinic. Not well attended by faculty who were not invited to judge presentations.</i></p> <p><i><u>Suggestions:</u> Ensure that this day is entirely clear for all clinical trainees and supervisors, and communicate the mandatory nature of the event. Request that supervisors attend their students' talks. Arrange for address by Dr. Major and chair of graduate student research during event.</i></p>
June 14 th , 2022	Meeting with CIHR Scientific Director (Dr. Karim Khan)	\$0	<p>Organized by the School of Dentistry. Not attended by students other than SRGEC president, however very productive meeting advocating for students in research.</p> <p><i><u>Suggestion:</u> Advertise similar networking opportunities widely for future opportunities.</i></p>
June 15 th , 2022	Student Networking event with Dr. Antonio Nanci	\$148.46 (lunch)	<p>Lunch provided by the Student Research Group. For trainees interested in visiting with Dr. Nanci during his Sperber Lecture visit.</p> <p><i><u>Suggestion:</u> This event fits the Terms of Reference of the Student Research Group well, and is a good justification of use of SRG funds.</i></p>
June 15 th , 2022	Geoffrey H. Sperber lecture (Dr. A. Nanci)	\$74.12 (coffee)	<p>Prestigious craniofacial seminar series honoring Dr. G.H. Sperber, presented by Dr. Antonio Nanci, Professor at the Université de Montréal at the University of Alberta.</p> <p><i>Refreshments were supplied by the Student Research Group. Dr. Nanci's schedule for meetings was designed by the SRGEC, and was escorted to all engagements by students or faculty.</i></p> <p><i><u>Suggestion:</u> Because this seminar directly represents the department, we propose that organization of events and funding should be the Department's responsibility. However, students could continue to help in smaller volunteer roles, such as escorting the visiting speaker to their scheduled meetings.</i></p>
June 20 th , 2022	SRG Career Mentorship Panel (Industry)	\$0	<p>Live Q&A session over Zoom to learn more about careers in research and about the trajectory our panelists followed. Panelists: Dr. Pranidhi Baddam, Dr. Vanessa Carias.</p> <p><i>We selected speakers in interesting roles within industry, outside of stereotypical marketing positions. Dr. Alex Eve, of Development, accepted an invitation but later declined due to conflict.</i></p> <p><i><u>Suggestion:</u> In the past, the SRG awarded honoraria to speakers for this session. Inclusion in the annual budget could allow for future compensation.</i></p>
July 4 th , 2022	SRG Career Mentorship Panel (Clinical)	\$0	<p>Live Q&A session over Zoom to learn more about careers in research and about the trajectory our</p>

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			panelists followed. Panelists: Dr. Zeeshan Sheikh, Dr. Rafael Figueredo, Dr. Elham Emami. <i>Excellent conversation, and well-rounded panel.</i> <u>Suggestion:</u> Invite clinical researchers, not exclusively those working strictly in the clinic.
July 25 th , 2022	SRG Career Mentorship Panel (Academia)	\$0	Live Q&A session over Zoom to learn more about careers in research and about the trajectory our panelists followed. Panelists: Dr. Julia Boughner, Dr. Anil Kishen. <u>Suggestion:</u> Invite Dr. Major to speak at upcoming session.
September 26 th , 2022	Annual General Meeting and Election	\$52.25 (pizza)	All postdoctoral fellows, graduate students, and undergraduate students were invited to learn about the SRG, what has been accomplished this year. <i>Attended by students interested in joining the committee. In previous years, DDS and DH classes attended together with graduate students.</i> <u>Suggestion:</u> Encourage attendance of all students in the School of Dentistry to establish a sizeable voting population and pool for nominations via outreach.

<i>NCOHR</i> <i>contribution</i>	<i>GSA</i> <i>contribution</i>	<i>DoD</i> <i>contribution</i>	<i>Event</i> <i>Expenditures</i>	<i>Bank</i> <i>Fees</i>
\$500.00	\$250.00	\$400.00	\$997.59	\$48.75

2021/22 SRGEC bank starting balance: **\$419.56** | Closing balance: **\$23.22**

We thank the School of Dentistry and Network for Canadian Oral Health Network (NCOHR) for their continued support of this local Student Research Group. Your contributions have actively enabled our local Canadian student research initiative to reach more trainees and to uplift current student researchers. We hope to continue this partnership as the Department of Dentistry Student Research Group grows in its scope locally, nationally, and beyond.

Sincerely,

The 2021/2022 Department of Dentistry Student Research Group

<i>Daniela Roth</i>	President , FoMD Faculty Council Student Representative
<i>Elnaz Yazdanbakhsh</i>	Vice President , Research Intensive Graduate Student Representative
<i>Masoud Mirimoghaddam</i>	Secretary , Member at Large
<i>Salima Asifali Sawani</i>	Treasurer , Member at Large
<i>Silvia Capenakas</i>	Clinically Intensive Graduate Program Representative
<i>Ramon Souza Carvalho</i>	Graduate Studies Committee Student Representative
<i>Nathalia Fagundes</i>	Graduate Student Association Student Representative
<i>Kareem Hassan</i>	DDS Program Representative
<i>Terri Ward</i>	DH Program Representative