

2022/23 Department of Dentistry SRG-EC Annual Report



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

August 2, 2023

In the academic year 2022/2023, the Department of Dentistry Student Research Group seized a remarkable opportunity to lead the way in the first year of post-pandemic recovery. This allowed us to conduct most of our meetings and events in person. As a result, a substantial surge in attendance and heightened interactions between students and faculty members.

Throughout this year, our objective was to cultivate a culture of research among undergraduate students. To achieve this, we organized a series of in-person events, including the Fall and Winter Research Mixers, that offered an excellent platform for students to engage with their peers and faculty members, which witnessed remarkable attendance and provided a conducive environment for interaction. Supervisors presented their projects during these mixers, allowing students to engage in research discussions with faculty members. We also held an event for summer research students at the beginning of summer to welcome them to the program.

Furthermore, we achieved a significant accomplishment by successfully hosting the second annual student-organized Day of Dentistry Poster Session. This event was important for numerous students as it marked their first chance to present their research projects at the School of Dentistry. A dedicated session on poster preparation was held before the main event to assist students in creating effective posters, offering them valuable guidance on preparing and presenting their research.

This year, we undertook a novel initiative by organizing a two-day Research Day event for the first time, aligning it with the Geoffrey H. Sperber lecture series. Despite the initial concerns and challenges in planning the events due to the high number of presentations, both events yielded positive outcomes. Importantly, students and faculty members expressed contentment with the outcomes and the great lessons learned through the experience.

Building upon the insights provided by the preceding SRG, our efforts were directed toward enhancing engagement with undergraduate students, resulting in their active participation in the events. Nonetheless, there remains a persistent concern surrounding the limited presence of faculty members and students, particularly during the Research Day event. This issue merits the attention of the forthcoming SRG. Benefiting from an increased budget this year, we successfully incentivized attendance by providing refreshments and lunch during our meetings.

The selection process for the following year's SRG should commence earlier, and strategic promotion of the SRG during the DDS student orientation should be considered.

Below is a summary of our 2022/23 events, with listed expenditures for each event.

2022/23 Department of Dentistry SRG-EC Annual Report

Date	Event	Budget	Description and comments
November 21, 2022	Fall Faculty Research Mixer	\$203.1	<p>In-person faculty research mixer connecting students with faculty members seeking summer researchers.</p> <p>This event was well attended; lunch was provided and appreciated by both faculty and students. Some faculties received numerous requests for participation in summer research.</p>
February 13, 2023	Winter Faculty Research Mixer	\$255.36	<p>An in-person networking event focusing on the logistics of the Summer Research program and what future undergraduate researchers need to know.</p> <p>This event was well attended, and SRG provided lunch. Students requested additional information on projects available to them. Some undergraduate students reported needing an invitation. Feedback suggested that the next event is more focused on award opportunities and what to expect of the research experience towards new summer research students.</p>
March 4, 2023	Research Poster Workshop Session	\$0	<p>Online session guiding students through poster design and preparation for Day of Dentistry poster presentations.</p> <p>Due to the low attendance for last year's session, hosting it before an in-person session, like the Day of Dentistry poster session, was suggested. The attendance was still pretty low, with six attendees. However, after the session, the presentation was shared with all students which was helpful to prepare their posters for the upcoming poster session.</p>
March 30, 2023	Day of Dentistry Poster Session	\$180	<p>A live poster session was held at Glacier Room - Lister Centre for all students conducting research in the School of Dentistry. A requirement for Summer Researchers to present their research. SRG administered awards judged by faculty and post-doctoral fellows.</p> <p>This event was organized for the second time by the SRG. Organization and execution ran smoothly, and many students and faculty complimented the event.</p> <p><u>Suggestion:</u> The main suggestions for improving this event include booking a larger presentation room and increasing presentation time. A detailed list of recommendations is available in the SRG drive.</p>
March 30, 2023	Student Networking event with Dr. Sreenath Madathil	\$65.7	<p>It was an in-person meeting held at 5-099. Interested students had a chance to network with the keynote speaker of the day of dentistry, Dr. Madathil, a faculty</p>

2022/23 Department of Dentistry SRG-EC Annual Report

			member at McGill University. It was a well-attended session, and students shared their research with the speaker and learned about his research.
June 13, 2023	Geoffrey H. Sperber lecture (Dr. Bernhard Ganss)	\$0 (Department expense)	Prestigious craniofacial seminar series honoring Dr. G.H. Sperber, presented by Dr. Bernhard Ganss, Professor at the University of Toronto at the University of Alberta. The Student Research Group supplied refreshments. Dr. Ganss's schedule for meetings was designed by the SRG and SOD research coordinator, and he was escorted to all engagements by students or faculty. Dr. Ganss met with faculties and visited the Dentistry Museum at the University of Alberta.
June 13, 2023	Student Networking event with Dr. Bernhard Ganss	\$268.01	The Student Research Group provided lunch for trainees interested in visiting with Dr. Ganss during his Sperber Lecture visit
June 13 and 14, 2023	Graduate Student Research Day	\$498.77 (Catering: \$298.77; Prizes: \$200)	First and Second-year graduate students were required to present their work to faculty and trainees. Faculty members gave talks feedback, and awards were given for the highest scores. While organizing this event with more than 30 presentations aligned with the Sperber lecture was challenging, it was well organized, and refreshments were provided during the event. Most students could present their work, though some were working remotely away from Alberta. Despite reserving this date in advance, many students left after their presentations. Not well attended by faculty who were not invited to judge presentations. <u>Suggestions:</u> The main suggestions for this event were planning and booking the calendar well and encouraging the faculty and students to attend the events. A report consisting of all suggestions is available in the SRG drive.
July 6, 2023	Summer Research Student Welcome Event	\$211.94	A casual meeting with summer research students was held at the University Club of the UofA. SRG provided refreshments, and two faculty members attended the event.
	Annual General Meeting and Election		

<i>NCOHR contribution</i>	<i>GSA contribution</i>	<i>DoD contribution</i>	<i>Event Expenditures</i>	<i>Bank Fees</i>	Total Contributions	Total expenses
----------------------------------	--------------------------------	--------------------------------	----------------------------------	-------------------------	---------------------	----------------

2022/23 Department of Dentistry SRG-EC Annual Report

\$1000	\$250	\$450	\$1,682.88	\$64.05	1700	1746.93
--------	-------	-------	------------	---------	------	---------

2021/22 SRGEC bank starting balance: **\$21.72** | 2022/2023 Closing balance: **\$19.54**

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 enabled our local Canadian student research initiative to reach more trainees and 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,

2022/2023 Department of Dentistry Student Research Group

<i>Carlos Alberto Figueredo</i>	President , Clinically Intensive Graduate Program Representative
<i>Masoud MiriMoghaddam</i>	Vice President , Research Intensive Graduate Student Representative
<i>Karla Carpio</i>	Treasurer , Post-doctoral Fellows Representative
<i>Amir Rahmati</i>	Secretary , Member at Large
<i>Victor Ladewig</i>	Graduate Students' Association Council Representative
<i>Jeron Bennett</i>	DDS Program Representative
<i>Jaskaranjit Dhaliwal</i>	DH Program Representative
<i>Mohsen Gholizadeh</i>	FMOD Council Representative