



Faculty of
Dental Medicine and
Oral Health Sciences

Faculté de
médecine dentaire et des
sciences de la santé orale



Dean's
Report
2024



Land Acknowledgement

McGill University is on land which has long served as a site of meeting and exchange amongst Indigenous peoples, including the Haudenosaunee and Anishinabeg nations. We acknowledge and thank the diverse Indigenous peoples whose presence marks this territory on which peoples of the world now gather.

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Dean's *message*



Dear readers,

I am proud to share with you the remarkable achievements of the Faculty of Dental Medicine and Oral Health Sciences in 2024.

After an extensive renovation that began late in 2023, the Jim Lund Clinic at Welcome Hall Mission reopened in May. The renovation allowed us to double our capacity, offer a space that follows universal accessibility standards, and develop a hub for patient and community centred care. We are committed to creating environments where everyone feels not only welcomed but also respected and valued.

September 2024 marked the start of our Doctor of Dental Medicine (DMD) program's new curriculum. The COVID-19 pandemic imposed many challenges on the Faculty, but this life-altering event also pushed us to reexamine the DMD curriculum and make changes to ensure it remains relevant with the advancement of digital dentistry tools and continues to educate and advocate for dental care for all. The DMD students will have more time dedicated to pre-clinical and clinical training while still benefitting from the first year they share with Medicine students.

We also launched our newest academic program, the Graduate Diploma in Oral Medicine. This program addresses clinical care, academic research, and teaching in the field of Oral Medicine. I am confident that our program will address the growing need for oral medicine specialists who are not only capable of delivering the highest quality of clinical care, but who will also fill the gap in academia and teach and inspire future generations of students.

The one-year Special Care Dental Medicine Residency program welcomed its first resident. There is a growing need in Canada to provide care to people with special care needs, such as those who are neurodivergent, have a physical or intellectual disability, or seniors with cognitive issues. These patient groups are often at higher risk of oral health disease.

The Faculty's Research Impact score in the 2024 Global Ranking of Academic Subjects was among the highest in the world, reaffirming that we are a global leader in dental and oral health research. In 2024, faculty researchers secured \$8,063,796 in research-related funding. One Canada Research Chair Tier 2 was renewed, and one of our early career researchers received a new Tier 2 Canada Research Chair. We provided \$2.17 million in financial support to our graduate students, a 16.5% increase from 2023.

Our Continuing Dental Education program experienced significant growth in diversity and scope, offering a wide array of in-person, online, and Travel and Learn courses to enhance the educational experiences of dental professionals worldwide.

To maintain our mission of education, research and innovation in dental medicine and oral health, we must continue to work hard and dream big. Thank you to all faculty members, staff and students for their perseverance and passion to help us achieve all that we did in 2024. Your support empowers us to expand our impact, ensuring that innovation and compassionate care remain at the core of everything we do.

.....
Elham Emami
Dean and Professor



Chers lecteurs,

Je suis fière de partager avec vous les réalisations remarquables de la Faculté de médecine dentaire et des sciences de la santé orale en 2024.

Après d'importantes rénovations entamées à la fin de 2023, la Clinique Jim Lund de Mission Bon Accueil a rouvert ses portes en mai. Les travaux ont permis de doubler notre capacité d'accueil, d'offrir un espace conforme aux normes d'accessibilité universelle et de créer un carrefour axé sur des soins centrés sur les patients et la communauté. Nous nous engageons à créer des environnements où chacun se sent non seulement accueilli, mais également respecté et valorisé.

Septembre 2024 a marqué le début du nouveau programme d'études de notre Doctorat en médecine dentaire (DMD). La pandémie de COVID-19 a imposé de nombreux défis à la Faculté, mais elle nous a également poussés à réexaminer notre programme DMD et à apporter des modifications pour qu'il reste pertinent à l'ère de la dentisterie numérique, tout en continuant à former et à promouvoir l'accès aux soins dentaires pour tous. Les étudiants en DMD bénéficieront d'un temps accru consacré à la formation préclinique et clinique, tout en profitant de la première année partagée avec les étudiants en médecine.

Nous avons également lancé notre tout nouveau programme académique, le Diplôme d'études supérieures en médecine buccale. Ce programme aborde les soins cliniques, la recherche académique

et l'enseignement dans le domaine de la médecine buccale. Je suis convaincue que ce programme répondra au besoin croissant de spécialistes en médecine buccale capables non seulement de prodiguer des soins cliniques de grande qualité, mais aussi de combler le vide en milieu universitaire en formant et en inspirant les futures générations d'étudiants.

Le programme de résidence d'un an en soins dentaires spécialisés a accueilli son premier résident. Le besoin de soins dentaires adaptés pour les personnes ayant des besoins particuliers ne cesse de croître au Canada, notamment pour les personnes neurodivergentes, vivant avec une déficience physique ou intellectuelle, ou les aînés présentant des troubles cognitifs, qui sont plus à risque de maladies buccodentaires.

Le score d'impact en recherche de la Faculté dans le classement mondial 2024 des disciplines académiques (*Global Ranking of Academic Subjects*) figure parmi les plus élevés au monde, confirmant notre statut de leader mondial en recherche en médecine dentaire et en santé orale. En 2024, nos chercheurs ont obtenu 8 063 796 \$ en financement lié à la recherche. Une Chaire de recherche du Canada de niveau 2 a été renouvelée et un de nos chercheurs en début de carrière a obtenu une nouvelle Chaire de niveau 2. Nous avons offert 2,17 millions de dollars en soutien financier à nos étudiants aux cycles supérieurs, soit une augmentation de 16,5 % par rapport à 2023.

Notre Programme de formation dentaire continue a connu une croissance significative en diversité et en portée, offrant une vaste gamme de cours en présentiel, en ligne, ainsi que des formations « Travel and Learn », afin d'enrichir l'expérience éducative des professionnels de la santé buccodentaire à l'échelle mondiale.

Pour maintenir notre mission d'éducation, de recherche et d'innovation en médecine dentaire et en santé orale, nous devons continuer à travailler avec ardeur et à rêver en grand. Merci à tous les membres de notre corps professoral, aux membres du personnel et aux étudiants pour leur persévérance et leur passion, qui ont permis d'atteindre tous ces accomplissements en 2024. Votre soutien nous donne les moyens d'élargir notre impact et de faire en sorte que l'innovation et la bienveillance soient toujours au cœur de notre mission.

.....
Elham Emami
Doyenne et professeure

Bringing *sustainable practices*

into Dental Medicine and Oral Health Sciences




The Faculty of Dental Medicine and Oral Health Sciences is taking significant strides towards environmental sustainability under the guidance of Professor Dr. Christophe Bedos. With a new initiative funded by the McGill Sustainability Projects Fund, Dr. Bedos is leading efforts to integrate eco-friendly practices into the dental medicine program and Faculty operations. The initiative “Creating a Culture of Sustainability in the McGill Faculty of Dental Medicine and Oral Health Sciences” has received \$54,500 for its first phase, focused on planning.

“It is a fantastic opportunity for all of us at the Faculty to do our part in addressing the issues of climate change and loss of biodiversity,” says Dr. Bedos. “We will probably be among the first medical and dental faculties in the world to do so.”

The project involves the establishment of a sustainability committee within the Faculty, tasked with assessing direct and indirect carbon emissions, waste, and water consumption. This comprehensive evaluation aims to develop objectives and strategies for eco-sustainability, requiring collaboration from faculty members, students, staff, and even patients from the Faculty’s dental clinics.

To facilitate this complex undertaking, the Faculty of Dental Medicine and Oral Health Sciences is partnering with Synergie Santé Environnement (SSE), a non-governmental organization experienced in guiding health institutions toward environmental sustainability. Although the initial funding covers one year, there is potential for an additional two years of support from the Sustainability Projects Fund, allowing the project to implement a waste and carbon reduction strategy. “The first year is about assessment and building a report with SSE on the Faculty’s carbon footprint. The second year and beyond would involve strategizing and implementing the measures the committee identifies.”

Dr. Bedos’ commitment to sustainability is not new.



Earlier in 2024, he received \$150,000 from the Institut national de santé publique du Québec for the project “Former les professionnels pour une dentisterie écoresponsable” (Training Professionals for Environmentally Responsible Dentistry). This project’s goal is to create an online credited training for all oral health professionals, focusing on identifying and reducing greenhouse gas emissions while maintaining quality dental services. PhD Oral Health Sciences student Newsha Toreihi, whose thesis focuses on sustainable dentistry, will work alongside Dr. Bedos on this project.

When asked what drove him to launch these initiatives, Dr. Bedos explains that “two and a half years ago, the Fonds de recherche du Québec – Santé, which finances the Quebec Network for Intersectoral Research in Sustainable Oral and Bone Health (RiSBOD) which I am the co-director of, rethought their funding approach. I started researching sustainability and realized that the situation of our planet was critical and required urgent action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Consequently, we proposed that sustainable dentistry would become a strategic research priority in Quebec. As a researcher myself, I developed a research axis on sustainability and began integrating it into my own work.”

The process of assessing direct and indirect carbon

emissions, waste, water consumption, and transportation modes of students and staff within the Faculty is thorough. SSE has already conducted a preliminary report after touring the clinics.

Through dedicated leadership and collaborative efforts, the initiative aims to set a precedent for medical and dental faculties worldwide.

Dr. Bedos’ innovative approach showcases the Faculty of Dental Medicine and Oral Health Sciences’ dedication to environmental stewardship and its role in addressing global challenges such as climate change and biodiversity loss. The initiative promises to pave the way for sustainable practices in dental medicine, benefiting both the environment and future generations of dental professionals.

Special Care *Dental Medicine*

Residency program

A unique training path to serve elderly and neurodivergent patients

The Faculty of Dental Medicine and Oral Health Sciences expanded its residency programs to incorporate a new program allowing one resident to focus their training on geriatric and special care dentistry.

Dr. Bishoy Yacoub is the first resident in this new residency. What sets the program apart is its dual focus. It provides a comprehensive approach to dentistry for two often underserved populations: the elderly and the neurodiverse. “Treating them with equal importance, with equal amount of care, and with a tailored, adapted approach,” Dr. Yacoub explains.

In a typical week, Dr. Yacoub spends two days treating elderly patients in long-term care facilities affiliated with the CIUSSS West-Central Montreal network, two days seeing patients from the neurodivergent population at the Montreal General Hospital (MGH), leaving Fridays reserved for reading and research. Each treatment day starts with a ‘morning huddle’ to review upcoming cases and discuss plans as a team. Based on careful examination of medical history and any previous knowledge of each patient, Dr. Yacoub’s team decides how to provide the best personalized care. “Every day is a learning experience,” he says, “and every patient is a school.”

The Faculty’s Special Care Dental Medicine Residency program not only teaches residents how to treat patients, but how to truly care for them: understanding their needs, health conditions, and personal histories, and engaging with patients and family members to bridge communication gaps. Its holistic approach highlights the importance of empathy, communication and thorough knowledge to any dentist, but especially those dealing with elderly and neurodivergent populations.

According to Dr. Yacoub, the dedication of Dr. Mel Schwartz, General Practice Residency site director at the Jewish General Hospital (JGH), and Dr. Chantal Czerednikow, Director of the Oral Health Clinic for the Neurodivergent Community located at the MGH, is what allows the Special Care Dental Medicine residency to exist. They designed the curriculum, recruited and trained support staff, secured resources, and have done everything in their power to make the program the success Dr. Yacoub sees it as. “They created opportunities for residents to work in real-world settings with the right tools and support, and they have shown me that being a mentor is about more than just sharing knowledge; it’s about being a model for passion, persistence, and the kind of empathy that makes a lasting impact.”





Dr. Yacoub is involved in several research projects, including a study with Dr. Schwartz focused on modulating oral bacteria to help prevent caries and inflammation. They hope this could help maintain tooth integrity in individuals less able to brush their own teeth, or those whose teeth it is difficult for others to brush. He plans to continue his research following the end of his residency, particularly in refining minimally invasive treatments – an idea he said he already vaguely had in mind but that “integrating the program gave me the opportunity to realize it.” The residency has also deepened Dr. Yacoub’s desire to pursue his passion for teaching: he hopes to pass on his zeal and knowledge to students and future residents, inspiring others to provide care to underserved populations.

He shared a story about an elderly patient he recently saw. She needed much dental work done, so he asked her what her chief complaint was. She pointed out a broken tooth which Dr. Yacoub set about repairing. When he was done, he handed her a mirror: “She was so happy! I was happy and rewarded by the delight I saw in her eyes and of her companion and caregiver. We all were happy, and I went home happy!”

For those considering applying to the Special Care Dental Medicine residency, Dr. Yacoub feels that candidates need “resiliency, adaptability, openness to an interdisciplinary approach, empathy, and communication skills.”



Giving back *to ensure a healthy smile for all*

Community service is a strong component of our dental medicine curriculum; however many students take giving back to the community one step further. To recognize current students for their exceptional contributions to the Faculty and the dental profession in general, the Faculty of Dental Medicine and Oral Health Sciences launched in 2024 the Outstanding Future Alumni Awards. The awards celebrate fundraising efforts, volunteerism, committee work, and equity, diversity and inclusion initiatives.

In 2022, Tyler Baliesh, Arieh Bouhadana, and Nathaniel Mellul, DMD'25, created Sweating for a Healthy Smile. This high intensity fundraising event featured a day of exercise classes taught by fitness professionals to raise money for the Mobile Dental Clinic, alongside further fundraising through McGill24, McGill's annual day of giving. During the three years they organized Sweating for a Healthy Smile, some 300 participants took part with a total of over \$30,000 raised. Beyond their fundraising goal, Tyler, Arieh and Nathaniel also wanted to raise

awareness about the importance of the Mobile Clinic providing free dental care to those without the financial means to see a dentist, and as health care professionals creating a community of people who are passionate about resolving health inequalities.

Dr. Frances Power, Course Director of Community Oral Health Services, feels that "Tyler, Arieh, and Nathaniel's unconditional, unwavering support of our Mobile Dental Clinic program and wholehearted compassion for underserved people of Montreal also inspires our Mobile Dental Clinic team, students, volunteers, support staff, community partners, and, especially, our community patients! These three students have made a difference in the quality of life with whomever they meet since 2022."

Mackenzie Salmon, DMD'24, has contributed to the larger dental community through her volunteering in humanitarian missions since 2016, including with the Dental Bears Necessity in 2023. She is the past President of the McGill Dentistry Sustainability Club and former co-leader of McGill Dentistry Gives Back, a student led crowdfunding project to raise money for the Faculty's community clinics.

"Her passion for advancing the field of dentistry, particularly in patient care and social dentistry has been truly inspiring. She has a strong sense of work ethics, persistence, and intellectual integrity. I have observed Mackenzie show great resolve and resiliency when faced with difficult or stressful situations, which have never deterred her" says Associate Professor Dr. Véronique Benhamou, co-leader of Dental Bears Necessity.

A proud Montrealer, Eric Krochmalnek, DMD'25, possesses a strong community spirit and passion for dental outreach. He is Vice-President of Health and Wellness in the Dental Students Society, President of the Dental Wellness Club and was involved in McGill Dentistry Gives Back, helping to raise over \$5,000 for the Mobile Dental Clinic. Eric has championed oral cancer awareness through his involvement with the Tyndale St-Georges Community Centre. He also spearheaded the installation of an automatic filtered water fountain through the Students' Society of McGill University's environmental sustainability fund to encourage the use of reusable water bottles.

"Eric's dedication to making a positive impact has been exemplary, and his efforts have touched the lives of many individuals and organizations. His selflessness, leadership, and dedication to service make him a deserving candidate for the Future Alumni Award" affirmed Assistant Dean, EDI and Student Affairs Dr. Firoozeh Samim.





At a
glance

Student body

159

undergraduate dental students

30

clinical residents

97

graduate students and postdoctoral research fellows

Graduating Class of 2024

DMD

■ Female ■ Male



Graduate Studies



Residents and Fellows



Academic Staff

The Faculty's undergraduate and postgraduate dental program are delivered in our Undergraduate Teaching Clinic and three affiliate hospital clinics by:

39

Core teaching contract academic staff

23

Tenure-track academic staff

149

Part-time clinical instructors

51% Female
49% Male



Administrative Staff

The Faculty is supported by:

66

Non-academic support staff

24

Research assistants and associates



Education *and Learning*

Admissions

DMD Class of 2028 Portrait

41

students
in the class

35

students with a
Bachelor's degree

6

with a Master's
degree

24

years old
average age

3.85

class average

12

male

29

female

29

in-province

8

out of
province

4

international

10

students
from DENT-P

Continuing Education

Four specialized programs:
Oral Medicine / Oral Facial Pain, Forensic Dentistry, Oral Radiology, Trigger Point Injection

67

ACDE accredited courses

4

specialized program courses

10

in-person courses

2

Travel and Learn events:

Tremblant Ski and Learn, and Wellness Retreat for Dental Professionals at Spa Eastman



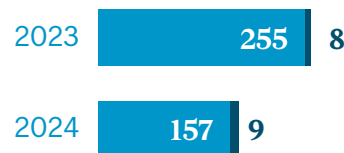
Fall 2023 and 2024 admissions cycle

■ Applicants ■ Registered

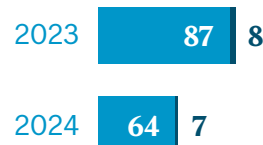
DMD PROGRAM



DENT-P PROGRAM



ADVANCED STANDING PROGRAM





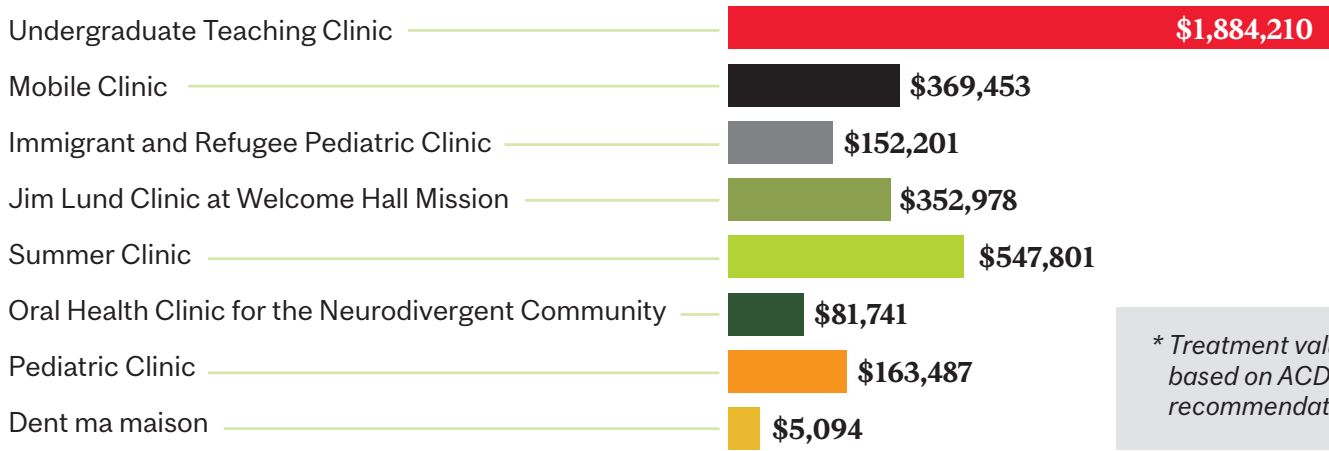
Clinical and *Community Care*

The Faculty changes lives one smile at a time by providing free and reduced cost dental care to those without access to dental care for financial or other reasons.

In 2023-2024, the Faculty of Dental Medicine and Oral Sciences' Service to the Community Program included more than 12,000 patients, providing treatments valued at over \$3.5 million.

Clinical care by the numbers

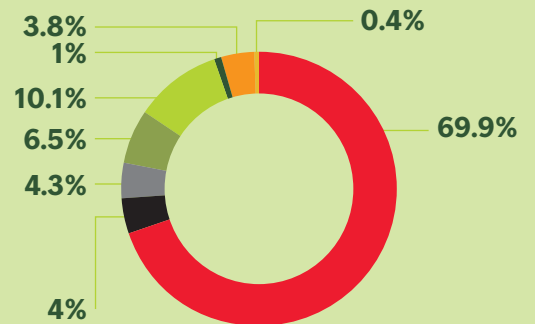
Value of treatments delivered: **\$3,556,965 ***



* Treatment valuation based on ACDQ fee recommendations

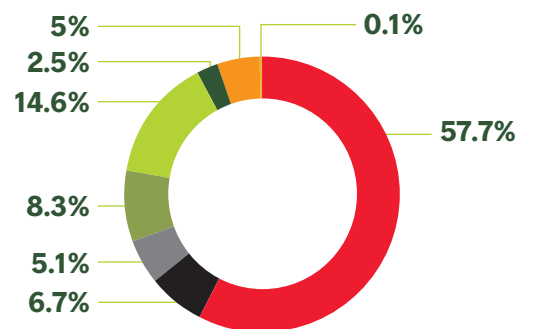
Patients served: **12,461**

- Undergraduate Teaching Clinic | 8,709
- Mobile Clinic | 495
- Immigrant and Refugee Pediatric Clinic | 541
- Jim Lund Clinic at Welcome Hall Mission | 815
- Summer Clinic | 1,254
- Oral Health Clinic for the Neurodivergent Community | 124
- Pediatric Clinic | 478
- Dent ma maison | 45



Procedures done: **33,486**

- Undergraduate Teaching Clinic | 19,311
- Mobile Clinic | 2,227
- Immigrant and Refugee Pediatric Clinic | 1,989
- Jim Lund Clinic at Welcome Hall Mission | 2,782
- Summer Clinic | 4,890
- Oral Health Clinic for the Neurodivergent Community | 836
- Pediatric Clinic | 1,690
- Dent ma maison | 99



Research



Research at the Faculty of Dental Medicine and Oral Health Sciences at McGill is intersectoral and interdisciplinary, and concentrated in five clusters.

AI and Digital
Oral Health

Bone and
Mineralized Tissue
Biology in Health
and Disease

Integrated Clinical
and Applied
Biomedical
Sciences

Pain and
Neuroscience

Population
Oral Health

In addition to teamwork within the research clusters there is widespread collaboration with other faculties and researchers at McGill, and several associate and adjunct members who collaborate with the Faculty.

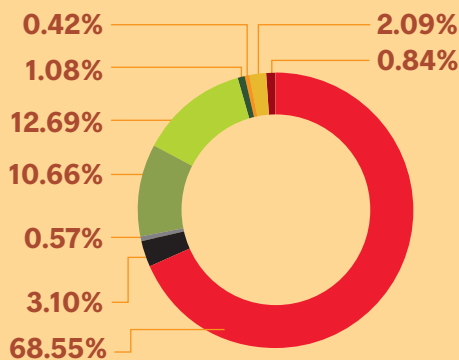
Funding Sources

During the 2023-2024 financial year, researchers in the Faculty of Dental Medicine and Oral Health Sciences obtained

\$8,063,796

in total installments.

- Canadian government | **\$5,528,045**
- Canadian foundations | **\$250,000**
- Canadian institutions, hospitals, and associations | **\$46,333**
- Quebec government | **\$859,726**
- Foreign corporations | **\$1,022,946**
- Foreign foundations | **\$87,300**
- US corporations | **\$33,565**
- US federal government | **\$168,314**
- US foundations | **\$67,567**



2024

108

 Scholarly Output

64.8%

 Scholarly Output (Open Access)

45

 International Collaboration

Research with a global impact

Our researchers work in teams within and across provincial, national, and international borders. Faculty researchers collaborated with 158 unique institutions across 25 countries.

Scholarly Output 2019-2024

168

 Citing policy documents

43

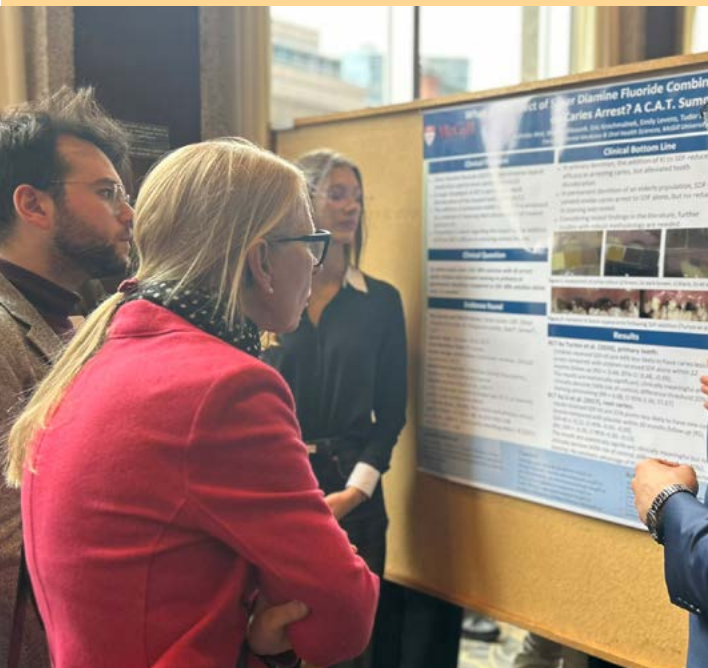
 Citing policy bodies

185

 Policy citations

In the last five years, articles published by Faculty of Dental Medicine and Oral Health Sciences researchers have been cited in numerous policy documents by policy bodies in Canada and around the world, including:

- **WHO;**
- **UNESCO;**
- **the Governments of Canada, United Kingdom, Japan, Spain and Switzerland;**
- **NHS Race and Health Observatory;**
- **OECD;**
- **European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies;**
- **the World Bank.**



Research awards

Canadian Research Chairs

Tier 1

Luda Diatchenko
Human Pain Genetics

Marc D. McKee
Biomineralization

Simon Tran
*Craniofacial Tissue Engineering
and Stem Cells*

Tier 2

Marc Martel
*Chronic Pain, Mental Health
and Opioid Use*

Etienne Vachon-Preseau
Chronic Pain

William Dawson Scholar

Etienne Vachon-Preseau

Awards

Canadian Dental Association – Distinguished Service Award

Dr. Nathalie Morin

American Dental Education Association - Dr. Jeanne C. Sinkford Faculty Leadership Award

Dr. Christophe Bedos

Ordre des dentistes du Québec- Conseil interprofessionnel du Québec - Prix Mérite

Dr. Elham Emami

International Team for Implantology - Distinguished Achievement Award

Dr. Jocelyne Feine

Fellow in the Pierre Fauchard Academy

Dr. Elham Emami
Dr. Julia Cohen-Levy
Dr. Thomas Nguyen

Fellow in the Académie dentaire du Québec

Dr. Nathalie Morin

Fellow in the Canadian Academy of Engineering

Maryam Tabrizian

ACFD W.W. Wood for Excellence in Dental Education

Dr. Raphael de Souza

Howard S. Katz Award for Excellence in Teaching

Alissa Levine

Graduate Student awards

Fonds de recherche du Québec - Santé

Homa Fathi
Antoine Karoichan
Zaneta D'Souza
Wen Bo (Sam) Zhou
Kioumars Tavakoli Tafti

Vanier Scholars

Homa Fathi

Canadian Association of Dental Research - Network for Canadian Oral Health Research Awards 2022-2023

Mary Amure
Tisha Prakash
Amees Sanghavi

Canada Graduate Scholarships - Master's

Allutas Alhamwi
Zaneta D'souza
Yupeng (Frank) Chen
Kioumars Tavakoli Tafti

CANTRAIN

Anisha Rodrigues

Lloyd Carr-Harris Fellowship

Nesma El-Amier

Donor sponsored awards

Nicolas Gregory Plays
Meghan Ethel Morrell
Leanne Van der Merwe
Allutas Alhamwi
Homa Fathi
Chetan Shirvankar
Nasim Khosravi
Mridul Sharma
Anisha Rodrigues
Newsha Toreihi
Veronica Parra
Mohamed Sangaré
Hannah Cho





Alumni and
Giving

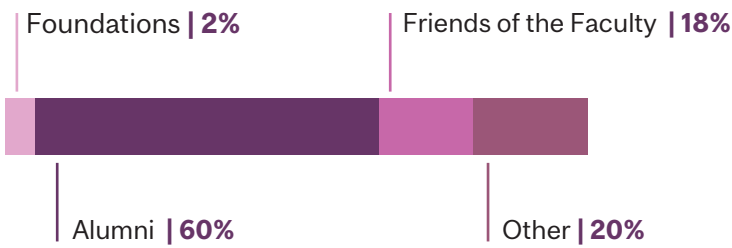
\$3.7M

raised in 2023-2024

*Impact of Giving –
Annual report in numbers*

The financial support we receive from our generous donors is essential to bringing the Faculty to its full potential, and to helping us shape the future of dental medicine.

Who our donors are



Categories of gifts

4.5%

Major Gifts
(\$100,000 - \$1,000,000)

72%

Annual Fund (<\$1,000)

22.5%

Leadership Gifts
(\$1,000-\$24,999)

1%

Planned Giving

Your support comes from near and far

60% Quebec

30% Rest of Canada

10% USA and International







McGill

Faculty of
Dental Medicine and
Oral Health Sciences

Faculté de
médecine dentaire et des
sciences de la santé orale



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