

EMBRAVE.

EMBRACE.

EMPOWER.

SEPTEMBER 2023, VOLUME 18, ISSUE 08

# THE CHRONICLE MONTHLY

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN DENTISTS

♡  
*inspire someone today*

## highlights



Thank you **BU.AAWD**  
for supporting SFS through donating dental instruments!

*smiles for success*  
AAWD



**2024 Annual Conference**  
Will be returning and we want to know what topics you want to see on the agenda

SOFT SKILLS | Sublingual | AFFORDABILITY

It could be a topic you see here or it could be something else <<<  
You let us know!



*smiles for success*  
AAWD

**Remember Your Why**

VOLUNTEER WITH SMILES FOR SUCCESS

@womendentists

## EMBRACING THE FUTURE WITH AAWD

Isabel Rambob, DDS, AAWD President

As we stand on the cusp of a new era for the American Association of Women Dentists (AAWD), I am thrilled to share with you some exciting developments and opportunities that lie ahead.

### \*\*The Return of the AAWD Annual Conference\*\*

One of the most eagerly awaited events in our calendar is the return of the AAWD Annual Conference in the fall of 2024. Our annual conference has always been a cornerstone of our community, offering an unparalleled opportunity for networking, professional development, and inspiration.

This year's conference promises to be even more extraordinary as we join together again for the first time in 5 years. It's a time to celebrate our resilience and dedication to the dental profession while rekindling the friendships that make AAWD so special.

### \*\*Monthly Educational Webinars with CEs\*\*

Education remains at the heart of our mission, and we are committed to providing you with the tools you need to excel in your dental careers. Starting this month, we will begin a series of educational webinars, each offering Continuing Education (CE) credits. These webinars will cover a wide range of topics, from clinical skills to practice management and everything in between. Keep an eye out for more info!

### \*\*Chapter Events and Networking\*\*

Our student and local chapters are the backbone of our organization, and we are committed to supporting and strengthening them. We encourage you to get involved in your local chapter and take advantage of the many opportunities for networking, mentorship, and personal growth that they offer. If you don't have a local chapter in your area, consider starting one!

### \*\*Wellness and Beyond\*\*

Dentistry can be demanding, and we want to ensure that you have the tools to thrive both in and outside of your practice. Look forward to wellness initiatives, stress management resources, and programs aimed at promoting work-life balance. AAWD is committed to supporting you holistically.

### \*\*Volunteer Opportunities with the Smiles for Success Foundation\*\*

The philanthropic arm of AAWD, the Smiles for Success Foundation (SFS) stands as a testament to our commitment to giving back. SFS offers you the chance to volunteer your skills and time to support underserved women in need of dental care. SFS provides a meaningful opportunity to make a difference in the lives of deserving women. Keep an eye out for upcoming opportunities to get involved with SFS as we work together to create healthier smiles and brighter futures.

## **\*\*Join Us on this Exciting Journey\*\***

As we embark on this journey into the future of AAWD, I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to each of you for your continued support and dedication. Together, we will shape a vibrant and inclusive community where women in dentistry can thrive, learn, and succeed. Your input and participation are vital to our success, so I encourage you to stay engaged and share your ideas.

In closing, the future of AAWD is bright, and I am excited about the incredible opportunities that await us. Let us embrace this future together with enthusiasm, passion, and a commitment to excellence in dentistry. Stay tuned for more updates and remember that we are #aawdbettertogether.

Thank you for entrusting me with the privilege of serving as your president. I am here to listen, support, and lead as we embark on this exciting journey together.

Sincerely,  
Dr. Isabel Rambob  
AAWD President

# **SFS AND AAWD THANK THE BU AWD CHAPTER FOR DONATING DENTAL INSTRUMENTS**

We want to give a huge thanks to the Boston University Chapter of AAWD and their donation campaign to help benefit the Smiles for Success Foundation! This campaign has led to a very generous donation of various dental instruments that will be used by SFS to help women gain confidence in their smile.

The Smiles for Success Foundation (SFS) offers cost-free dental care to women who have graduated from accredited job readiness and placement programs or other community-based agencies. The care offered is meant to be a short-term solution for those who need treatment that is not available to them. SFS's goal is to help women confidently obtain employment and financial independence by rejuvenating smiles, boosting self-esteem, and enhancing self-respect.



Smiles for Success works with a network of community programs, volunteer dentists (our own AAWD members!), volunteer labs, and community sponsors to provide services for women in transition from welfare to work. Donations are always appreciated to help our volunteer dentists and labs provide the best care for these women and educate the women on continued proper dental care.

Establishing new community clinics especially requires donations of tools and supplies to provide treatment. One way to support SFS is to donate any dental instruments that are no longer needed. Dental students who were required to purchase certain dental instruments often have instruments to part with, and this was the case with the Boston University Chapter.

After running a successful donation campaign, they were able to provide a large donation of many different dental supplies to support these community clinics, volunteer dentists, and SFS as a whole. AAWD and the Smiles for Success Foundation greatly appreciate the generosity of and time and effort spent by the Boston University Chapter of AAWD.

If you or your chapter would also like to support SFS, make sure to follow SFS on Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn as well as share SFS posts with your networks. You can also turn any of your AAWD chapter events into a fundraiser or donation campaign for SFS.

Once again, we want to thank the Boston University chapter for their dental instrument donation for the Smiles for Success Foundation!

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[@womendentists](#)  
[@womendentistssmiles](#)

**Interested in  
volunteering?  
Click here!**



# ELEANOR J. BUSHEE

## SENIOR STUDENT DENTAL AWARD

The namesake of AAWD's Senior Student Dental Award, Dr. Eleanor J. Bushee graduated from Northwestern Dental School in 1944. After 15 years in private practice, she entered the academic world. She attained the position of Professor of Pediatric Dentistry and Orthodontics as well as Assistant Dean for Administration at Southern Illinois University of Dental Medicine. Dr. Bushee was an accomplished author and lecturer. She lived her life with verve and style.



The American Association of Women Dentists presents the Eleanor J. Bushee Senior Dental Student Award each year to honor senior dental students who have achieved academic excellence and have demonstrated outstanding leadership. The recipients of this year's award demonstrate enthusiasm in their careers in dentistry and in their lives as a colleagues, friends and mentors.

## Meet the 2022-2023 Bushee Award Winners!!



*Dr. Uche Nwasuruba*



*Dr. Caroline Puskas*



*Dr. Morgan Engelbrecht*

Dr. Uche Nwasuruba is a 2023 graduate from UT Health San Antonio School of Dentistry. Throughout dental school, she was involved in Student National Dental Association, Christian Medical Dental Association, American Student Dental Association, and AAWD. She also served in several leadership roles including becoming a president for both SNDA and AAWD student chapters. Dr. Nwasuruba plans on working as an associate in private practice in Tyler or Dallas, TX.

*"Uche organized community service, fundraisers, and other sponsored events...and has showcased her excellent leadership skills." - Dr. Adriana Segura*

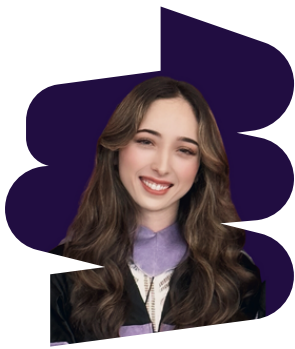
Caroline Puskas is from Atlanta, Georgia originally and attended Dartmouth College for university. She graduated this past May from Columbia University College of Dental Medicine and is now beginning general practice residency at the Manhattan Veterans Affairs Medical Center.

*"Caroline's contributions to CDM and the broader community are exemplary and set a high standard for academic excellence, leadership, and research" - Dr. Dana Wolf, DMD, MS*

Dr. Morgan Engelbrecht is from St. James, MO. She obtained a BA in Chemistry from the University of Missouri Kansas City. Dr. Engelbrecht attended dental school at UMKC School of Dentistry, and served as class president all 4 years, Student of the Year in 2019-2020 & 2020-2021, Xi Psi Phi member and External Vice President 2021-2022, and AAWD member throughout. She graduated Cum Laude. After graduation, Dr. Engelbrecht will be moving to Denver to practice dentistry.

*"Morgan Engelbrecht is a strong female leader...who, I know, will take these skills into her future." - Dr. Becky M. Smith, DDS*

**We want to celebrate YOU! Share your photo and information to be featured in the next issue by [clicking here](#) or emailing [lindsay.abeln@internationalamc.com](mailto:lindsay.abeln@internationalamc.com)**



*Dr. Alia Kabbara*

Dr. Alia Kabbara was born and raised in Orange, CA. She holds a B.S. in Public Health Sciences and an M.S. in Global Medicine. She recently graduated from Western University of Health Sciences College of Dental Medicine in May 2023. Dr. Kabbara cites involvement in AAWD as a source of encouragement and support throughout dental school.

*"I admire Alia's professional and kind demeanor and passion for service. As our AAWD Chapter president, Alia eased the transition back to in-person events, grew the chapter, and organized several community outreach and service events." - Dr. Sandra Farah-Franco*



*Dr. Margaret Miller*

Dr. Margaret Miller is a recent graduate of Marquette University School of Dentistry. From Green Bay, WI, she completed her undergrad degree in Exercise Science at the University of St. Thomas. During dental school, she was involved in organizations such as ASDA, SCDA, Psi Omega, and AGD. She was inducted into Alpha Sigma Nu and Omicron Kappa Upsilon honor societies. This summer, Dr. Miller will be starting a GPR at Loyola University Medical Center and exploring the city of Chicago.

*"Margaret is very active in leadership within the school both within student organizations as well as advocating for fellow classmates and her patients." - Dr. Rossi and Dr. Nenn*



*Dr. Isabella Christianson Galina*

Dr. Isabella Christianson Galina is a recent graduate of the University Minnesota School of Dentistry. She grew up in the Nashville area and attended college at Washington University, studying biology, psychology, and children's studies. At UMN, she had the opportunity to participate in many student groups such as the Women's Dental Association and Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery Club. She recently moved to Seattle where she will be starting a residency program in OMS at University of Washington.

*"Isabella is an outstanding leader in the profession and will continue to be so in the future." - Sara N. Johnson*

| Awardee                     | School   | Awardee            | School  | Awardee              | School  |
|-----------------------------|--|--------------------|---|----------------------|---|
| Madison LeBlanc             | University of Michigan School of Dentistry                   | Caroline Carlock   | The Dental College of Georgia                                   | Madison Chumbler     | University of Louisville School of Dentistry          |
| Kristen Forehand            | Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine | Monica Hochberg    | University of Illinois Chicago College of Dentistry             | Kelly O'Keefe        | University of Maryland School of Dentistry            |
| Christina Beausoleil Gordon | Virginia Commonwealth University School of Dentistry         | Sababa Chisty Anan | University of Buffalo School of Dental Medicine                 | Sydney Plotner       | The Ohio State University College of Dentistry        |
| Sydney Elisabeth Pannella   | Rutgers School of Dental Medicine                            | Alexandra Fong     | University of the Pacific, Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry | Tisha Marie General  | Midwestern University College of Dental Medicine - IL |
| Payton M. Ledman            | University of Florida College of Dentistry                   | Michelle Pinon     | Nova Southeastern University                                    | Casey Park           | University of Mississippi School of Dentistry         |
| Hannah Swift                | UNLV School of Dental Medicine                               | Lori Ann Gossett   | Texas A&M School of Dentistry                                   | Rachel Michelle Hodo | Arizona School of Dentistry & Oral Health             |
| Addison Vitols              | University of Connecticut School of Dental Medicine          | Talia Just         | Southern Illinois University School of Dental Medicine          | Sophia Hall          | University of New England, College of Dental Medicine |
| Nicole M. Radzius           | Creighton University School of Dentistry                     | Vivian Lee         | Penn Dental Medicine  | CyVanie Ramkelawan   | Meharry Medical College                               |
| Kallie Marie Holte          | A.T Still Missouri School of Dentistry & Oral Health         | Jessica Ho         | University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine              |                      |   |

Welcome New Members!

AAWD is Growing! Say hello to our newest members!

Dr. Joesenita Nascimento
Dr. Caresa Doakes
Dr. Jill Jenkins
Dr. Haia Alabbasi
Ariana Danzy
Dr. Anushree Tiwari
Dr. Margaret Miller
Destiny Williams
Dr. Isabella Christianson Galina
Dr. Shenika Kelly
Nicora Long
Dr. Hannah Yancho
Dr. Rachel Ward

Abigail Gruneisen
Dr. Cheryle Baptiste
Dr. Ingrid F. M. Santamaria
Dr. Pam Stein
Ericka Metayer
Dr. Katelyn Fleming
Dr. Alexys Ferguson
Taylor Steele
Dr. Saraswathi Pulluri
Erin Carroll
Caitlin Cuenca
Dr. Melissa Triplett

Upcoming Events

September

21: AAWD Webinar: The Pain Wars

October

5-7: AAWD at SmileCon - Visit us in the Exhibit Hall!

17: AAWD Webinar: 21st Century TMD Protocols

21: AAWD at the World Dental Congress in Boston - Visit us in the Exhibit Hall!

We want to hear from you! What events would you like to see AAWD host? Click here to share your feedback!

Meet the Graduates!!

Nurgul Islamoglu
BU GSDM



I came to BU as a first-gen college student and the first woman dentist in my hometown. Despite the unexpected changes in my dental career and numerous educational hurdles, I remain driven as a lifelong learner I graduated from both dental schools with the highest honors, and am committed to using my knowledge to improve each patient's quality of life.

Paula Aspinwall-Rezende
BU GSDM



From Belo Horizonte, Brazil, I specialized in Orthodontics and graduated in 2016 and moved to the US in 2018. My passion is orthodontics and oral surgery. I love baking, traveling, exploring new places with my husband. I also love arts, dogs and spending time with my friends and family. Paula is BU's 2023 DMD Advanced Standing valedictorian.

Want to be featured or recommend someone as the next member or chapter spotlight? Click here to submit to the next edition!

Promote the Future of Women in Dentistry



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ARMOIRE



# MEMBER BENEFIT

*spotlight*

## Meet AAWD's newest sponsor **lenCRxgroup** consulting


LenDRgroup Consulting represents what's next in practice financing industry standards.

With our concierge approach, practice owners no longer have to burden themselves with finding a lender, navigating applications, and providing the long list of items required by underwriting...we do it all.

LenDRgroup Consulting Practice Financing experts offer more than just great service. Our years of experience in banking ensure that we know exactly how to have conversations with lenders. We know how to tell your story so that banks see YOU and not just the numbers.

And as a representative of many women in ownership, we know just how powerful your stories are...and just how necessary.

For AAWD Members only, we are offering a complimentary audit of your current practice financing or a 30-minute consultation.

 [Contact us today!](#)