

MAY, 2026

# AMERICAN COLLEGE OF DENTISTS



## NEW ENGLAND SECTION NEWSLETTER

Mission Statement: To advance excellence, ethics, professionalism and leadership in dentistry.

[www.acdne.org](http://www.acdne.org)

### Thomas F. Winkler Leadership Award

The Thomas F. Winkler Award was first awarded to Dr. Winkler at the 2007 American College of Dentists New England Section annual meeting at the Yankee Dental Congress in Boston, Massachusetts. It recognized him for all that he had done over the years to promote the mission of the American College of Dentists through leadership, education, and ethics. Dr. Winkler, a mentor and role-model, served in leadership for the New England Section of the American College of Dentists and as the 2011 President of the American College of Dentists.

Each year the New England Section of the American College of Dentist considers potential nominations and selects the individual that best represents the high standards set by Dr. Thomas F. Winkler, both in professional and private life.



### Honoring our 2025 Recipient Dr. Robert Bartro

Dr. Robert E. Bartro of Rhode Island was selected as the recipient of the prestigious Thomas F. Winkler Award in recognition of his exceptional leadership, unwavering commitment to ethics, and lifelong dedication to organized dentistry and public health. A respected clinician, mentor, and advocate, Dr. Bartro's career has spanned more than five decades and reflects the very ideals embodied by Dr. Thomas F.

Winkler and the American College of Dentists. Dr. Bartro was especially honored to have his award presented by ACDNE Past Chair Dr. Lonnie H. Norris, his mentor and friend.

Throughout his distinguished career, Dr. Bartro has demonstrated an extraordinary commitment to service, education, and leadership. Following collaborative public health work providing care to Navajo children and underserved migrant populations, he spent nearly 40 years in private family dental practice while remaining deeply engaged in organized dentistry. He served as President of the Rhode Island Dental Association, Executive Director of the Association, and a member of the Rhode Island Board of Examiners in Dentistry before becoming Administrator for the Board through the Rhode Island Department of Health. Within the American College of Dentists, Dr. Bartro has served as Chair of the New England Section and currently serves on the Board at-large.

Beyond organized dentistry, Dr. Bartro's service has touched countless lives through volunteerism and mentorship. His involvement with Dental Lifeline Network, Rhode Island Mission of Mercy, the Rhode Island Free Clinic, and public health initiatives during the COVID-19 pandemic demonstrate his deep compassion and commitment to improving access to care. He has also dedicated decades to mentoring young people through scouting and educational outreach programs encouraging students to pursue careers in medicine and dentistry.

Dr. Bartro's many professional accomplishments, combined with his humility, integrity, and dedication to the greater good, make him a truly deserving recipient of the Thomas F. Winkler Award. The New England Section proudly congratulates Dr. Robert Bartro on this well-earned honor and thanks him for his enduring contributions to the dental profession and the communities he has so faithfully served.

Submit a nomination for a qualifying candidate with their credentials and summary of their accomplishments:

[Click here to nominate a fellow for the award](#)



## Regent Report

Dear ACD NE Section Fellows,

Happy Spring! I had a wonderful time at the ACD NE Section luncheon held in conjunction with ICD in January. That same weekend we also held a dinner for Regency 1 Leaders as well as the annual Regency 1 Leadership meeting. At the latter event, National Leadership, Section Chairs and SPEA Chapter leaders came together to learn more about their respective organizations and all participated in an exercise on 'values based leadership.'

Here is an update of some items of interest at ACD National...

\*Nominations were strong this year though not as ample as 2025 which was a banner year. There were many deferrals in 2025 so we expect the class size at the 2026 Convocation to be very strong.

\*Regency 1 Chairs met with me in March to discuss the application(s) received for our next Regent. All Chairs voted to make their selection.

\*Work continues on both the ACD National website as well as in updating the on-line Ethics CE offerings.

\*All Sections were encouraged to have at least 1-2 Fellows in leadership positions, or fellows who are interested in being in leadership positions attended the Spring Sections Leadership Meeting at the end of April at Niagara on the Lake. I was pleased that several NE Section leaders attended.

\*The SHIFT weekend Leadership training programs continue, with the next scheduled session in Rockville, MD in June. Please contact Suzan Pitman at National for more information ([suzan@acd.org](mailto:suzan@acd.org))

\*Planning for the fall meeting is underway. The meeting location in Santa Barbara is said to be fantastic. There is currently a call out for "Big Ideas" which will be the cornerstone of the Fellows Forum this year. Please see the accompanying news release from National.

Lastly, at National, I am a member of the Membership Committee as well of Chair of both the Sections Committee and ACD-SPEA Task Force. The Sections Committee has been tasked to take a critical look at our current Section structure as it has been ~20 years since this has been done!

Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or concerns.

All the best,

Julie

## Chair Report



*Warm Weather Greetings, New England Section!*

As I write this Commencement season is in full swing, and we wish all of the new graduates the best as they begin their next chapters. The students who were awarded the ACD Senior Leadership awards at our Luncheon at Yankee certainly represent a stellar level of achievement and the presentation of those awards are a very special part of our annual event! Thanks are also due to all the faculty who train our new colleagues. Your guidance is invaluable.

Much has been going on in our Section! Our spring webinar on Dentists in the Nazi Regime was impactful to all who attended and we hope to see Dr. Howard Israel, a true expert on bioethics, again whether in person or virtually. Follow

him on social media and you may be able to see additional programs online. My thanks to Carol Aiken for chairing our Continuing Education Committee and please note we would love more participation on this committee—please contact me if you are interested.

Tasks involve bringing ideas for topics and speakers for future programming.

The ACD Spring Leadership Conference in Niagra-on-the-Lake, Ontario again held a two-day component for section leaders and I was thrilled to attend with our Vice Chair Marian Royer, our Secretary Varsha Salani, and our Immediate Past Chair Maria Smith as well as Bob Faiella, President of the ACD Foundation. The focus of this meeting was standards for Leadership in Oral Healthcare and their application in organized dentistry. We also attended breakout sessions on section management and participated in an exercise to welcome incoming Fellows, and enjoyed meeting many friends new and old from across the College.

Speaking of incoming Fellows, ACDNE continues to thrive. We have 20 candidates for Fellowship in Santa Barbara, CA on October 23-24!

I'm also pleased to welcome Dr. Bob Ruhl, a general dentist from Brattleboro as our new Vermont Ambassador. We continue to need an Ambassador from New Hampshire—please reach out if you are interested. Ambassadors serve to recruit potential candidates for fellowship from their respective states and help to foster a better understanding of the College for all.

We proudly announce that Maria Smith, ACDNE Immediate Past Chair, will be the next Regent of Regency 1, representing the New England, New York, Western New York, Hudson-Mohawk, Quebec and Atlantic Provinces Sections. We are extremely proud of Maria's dedication to the College and are happy to see another New England Fellow become Regent, following in the footsteps of Paula Friedman!

In January, 2027 we will be electing our next Section Vice Chair for a two-year term, as my term as Chair ends and Marian Royer becomes the new Chair. The Vice Chair attends all Board meetings (currently held on Zoom) and runs the Thomas F. Winkler Leadership Award nomination and selection process. Please speak to any of our officers or Board members if you have questions or are interested in this position.

Sustainability and growth of our Section and the College as a whole lie in the hands of us, the current Fellows, and it is a joy to be at the helm of such a strong section. Please stay engaged and reach out with ideas of what would make your Fellowship more meaningful. The College is, at its core, a society of very busy dentists—and, in the words of Ben Franklin: "If you want something done, as a busy person."

Thank you for your continued Fellowship,

Best Wishes,  
Janis Moriarty

## ACD Fellow Spotlight

Dr. Shilpi Joshi



[Click to learn about Dr. Joshi](#)

Dr. Shilpi Joshi is a community health dentist, educator, and public health advocate based in Boston, Massachusetts. With more than 14 years of experience serving medically complex and underserved populations, she currently practices at NeighborHealth and serves as Adjunct Faculty at Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine. Her work focuses on improving access to oral healthcare through community-based dentistry, student mentorship, interdisciplinary collaboration, and public health outreach. Dr. Joshi has mentored numerous dental students through community externship programs and is passionate about inspiring future dentists to deliver compassionate, equitable care to vulnerable populations.

Dr. Joshi's professional interests include advancing access to implant-supported dentures for underserved older adults, integrating oral health with overall healthcare, and promoting leadership within organized dentistry. She is the recipient of the Lucy Hobbs Project Humanitarian Award and is actively involved in professional and research organizations, including the Massachusetts Dental Society and the National Dental Practice-Based Research Network. Through her clinical work, teaching,

research, and service, she remains committed to advancing ethical leadership and expanding access to quality oral healthcare for all communities.

[Read more about our spotlighted Fellow in other leading industry publications, click here](#)

## 2026 New England Section Board of Directors

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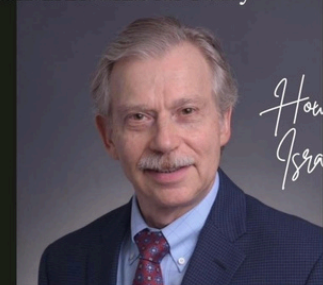
Kathleen O'Loughlin, Maine

Adam Saltz, Maine

Marian Royer, Rhode Island

Robert Ruhl, Vermont

Dentists *During the Nazi Regime*  
Dr. Suess, the SS & Dental Gold—  
Lessons in Bioethics for Today



Wednesday, May 20th from 7-8 pm

The medical profession's role in Nazi crimes against humanity is well documented, yet it remains difficult to understand how healers became perpetrators in the name of "racial hygiene." The dental profession's involvement has received far less attention, but studying it is essential today to reinforce ethical decision making in patient care.

1 CEU



[Nominate A Deserving Colleague For Fellowship: Click here to nominate today!](#)

## 2026 ACD Senior Dental Student Awardees

Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of  
Dental Medicine

**Saher Arora**

Harvard University School of Dental Medicine

**Christina Xu**

Tufts University School of Dental Medicine

**Marilena Currey**

University of Connecticut School of Dental  
Medicine

**Maxwell Marks**

University of New England School of Dental  
Medicine

**Elizabeth Strout**



## In Memorium: Dr. Bruce Donoff



**Dr. Robert Bruce Donoff** Walter C. Guralnick Distinguished Professor of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery, Harvard University Distinguished Service Professor and Dean of the Harvard School of Dental Medicine from 1991 to 2019, died on December 25, 2025, at the age of 83 years. He served as Chief of OMS at the Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH) from 1983-1992 and Dean of Harvard School of Dental Medicine (HSDM) for 28 years (1991-2019). He was a renowned surgeon, researcher and educator and remained active at HSDM and the MGH as a teacher and mentor throughout his entire career of 51 years.

[Click here to learn more about Dean Donoff](#)

### 3<sup>rd</sup> ACD & ICD Luncheon at Yankee Dental Congress 2026



## Celebrating our 50 year Fellows

**Congratulations to Dr. Green & Dr. Haddad for upholding the pillars of the American College of Dentists for 50 years since their convocation on November 13, 1976 in Las Vegas!**

### Dr. Daniel B. Green

Dr. Daniel B. Green practiced and taught endodontics for over 50 years, serving as a respected educator and role model for generations of practitioners. He held academic appointments at the Temple School of Dentistry, the Medical College of Virginia, and the University of Louisville School of Dentistry (where he was Associate Dean) before coming to Tufts University School of Dental Medicine as Chair of the Department of Endodontics in 1996. He was honored to be appointed the inaugural Thomas F.

Winkler Professor of Endodontics in 2013 until his retirement as Professor and Chair Emeritus in 2015.

Dr. Green served as the executive director of the American Association for Dental Research and the International Association for Dental Research in the late 1970s and his impressive research accomplishments include more than 40 published papers and a dozen research grants. He was a Robert Wood Johnson Health Policy Fellow, was a Visiting Scientist in Microbiology at the Forsyth Dental Center, and has served as the Editor of the Journal of Endodontics among many other positions!

In 2016 Dr. Green was honored with the I.B. Bender Lifetime Educator Award by the American Association of Endodontists, especially touching as he was taught by and mentored by I. B. Bender himself, as the first Endo resident at Penn.

Known for his ability to inspire critical thinking, tell stories galore, attempt a joke or two, and share his passion for taking patients out of pain, Dr. Green was a favorite faculty member during his years at Tufts.



### Dr. Abraham Haddad

Dr. Abraham Haddad, earning his DMD and Certificate in Periodontology from Tufts University School of Dental Medicine, practiced in Worcester, MA for his entire career, settling there after his residency at the former Memorial Hospital. A Diplomate of the American Academy of Periodontics and the International College of Oral Implantology, he also has a passion for the care of patients with special needs. The American Board of Special Care Dentistry awarded Dr. Haddad their highest honor for his contributions to curriculum development and program implementation for the care of differently abled patients. He served on the staff of Saint Vincent's hospital, the UMASS Medical School, and even tried to start a new dental school in Worcester back in the day. The school fell through, but his medical colleagues could see that this was a solutions-oriented, results-driven guy who could get stuff done. He was soon on the board of Worcester's Chamber of Commerce and a co-chairman of an effort to build a new bio-tech industry in the city. That effort resulted in the start of a humble nonprofit over 40 years ago what has evolved into MBI (formerly the MA Biomedical Research Institute)-the Commonwealth's longest running incubator, supporting 200+ life sciences start-ups, with Dr. Haddad playing an instrumental role as Chair of the MBI Board for many years. These start-ups have not only contributed to the region's economy, but have created thousands of jobs and billions in economic impact. He has served on many other boards for organizations that support economic development and the arts in Central Massachusetts and he continues to have a huge influence on its economic development. He is referred to, to this day as the unofficial "Mayor of Worcester" and is involved in most, if not all of every major project in Greater Worcester through one endeavor or another.

When not cultivating growth and improvement in his beloved city of Worcester, his other passion is sailing. He has explored the entire coast of New England all the way down to Chesapeake Bay in his "free time"!



## Member News

**Dr. Mimi Delessio-Matta** received the 78<sup>th</sup> Annual Daniel F Lynch Award on April 14<sup>th</sup> 2026 at the country Club of Waterbury in Connecticut

The award honors individuals who have made notable contributions to the dental profession especially those who have made significant contributions in a society and community thereby carrying on the legacy of Dr. Lynch.



**Dr. Michael Ungerleider** was recently named the 2026 Dr. James and Ella Burr McManus Award Recipient by the Hartford Dental Society!

This award recognizes individuals who have made significant contributions to dentistry through education, community service, patient care, or legislative and advocacy efforts.



In recognition of his transformational role in improving access to oral health care and services, **Dr. Earle W. Simpson Jr.** DMD, was named the 2025 recipient of the Alphonse J. "Skip" Homicz Jr. Legacy Award by the New Hampshire Oral Health Coalition (NHOHC)



ACDNE Fellows Dean Nadeem Karimbux and Hubert Park, President of the Tufts University School of Dental Medicine Alumni Association, presenting **Joseph Kenneally** of Maine with the Distinguished Alumni Award at Reunion Weekend!



## 2026 ACD New England Section Event highlights

### January 2026

Fellows Dr. Catherine Sarkis and Dr. Kadambari Rawal along with their colleague Dr. Talia Miller presented the annual ACD New England Sponsored course at Yankee Dental Congress 2026 on Ethical Concerns While Addressing Oral health Throughout the Life Spectrum.

Fellow attendees and speakers networked after the course and discussed various Ethical Dilemmas in clinical practice over drinks and appetizers. ACD NE section hopes to host this social every year during Yankee.

If you missed the course, [click here](#) to learn more about it



### Spring 2026

ACD New England Section leadership visit Niagara on the Lake for the ACD Spring Leadership Conference.



## We want to hear from you!

Did you know that your section: The New England Section of ACD was awarded the Model section? We wouldn't be here without you, our valued Fellows!

Please reach out to us with information about your achievements, contributions and events. Please also share your photos so we can highlight you in our next Newsletter.

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