



# THE DENTAL CORPS BULLETIN

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## 2019 Corps Chief's Award of Excellence

It is our pleasure to announce the Officer, Non-Commissioned Officer, Soldier and Civilian winners of the 2019 Dental Corps Chief Awards of Excellence. Congratulations to all winners and we extend our appreciation to all nominees. Winners will receive a Corps Chief coin, personal letter of recognition, name engraved on the plaque at the Corps Chief's office and an award for personal display. Please [CLICK HERE](#) to read more.

### Awards of Excellence 2019 winners are:

#### Dental Education:

COL Kenneth Erley, DHC-A, Ft. Gordon

#### Exceptional Service and Leadership:

COL Tawanna McGhee-Thondique, DHC-P, 618th DCAS

#### Junior Officer:

MAJ Kourtney Logan, DHC-E, Vogelweh

#### Non-Commissioned Officer:

SFC Brandon Jemison, DHC-C, Ft. Leavenworth

#### Junior Soldier:

SPC Alexander Haug, DHC-C, Ft. Bliss

#### Civilian-Category I:

Alberto Sierra, DHC-C, JBSA

#### Civilian-Category II:

Roxanne O'Neal, Dental Corps Chief Office

## 2018 Dental Corps Officer Survey Results

The final results of the 2018 Dental Corps Officer Retention Survey have been completed. The survey, conducted between 19 September and 12 October, 2018 received responses for 461 officers and covers 23 questions meant to gauge satisfaction with the Army Dental Corps. Please take time to review the presentation and reach out to the bulletin POC with any questions.

[2018 Dental Corps Survey](#)



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## Junior Leaders Course 2019

From 29 April - 03 May, 2019 eight junior officers, selected as exemplary leaders within the Dental Corps, attended the Junior Leader Course (JLC) in Washington, D.C. The JLC is a five-day leadership development approved short course that includes exposure to a variety of inter-professional and interagency activities. Attendees participate in discussion and observe presentations by strategic military leaders to build the critical knowledge and experience that better enables them to address future complex issues within Army Medicine and the Department of Defense. Attendees are identified through a lengthy nomination and selection process that identifies outstanding Active, Reserve and National Guard Component AMEDD Officers, Enlisted and Civilian members.

On 2 May, the Dental Corps held their professional development event at the historic ADA house in Washington, D.C. The event provided an opportunity for Corps-specific Officer development during the Army Medical Department's JLC. Eight young officers received an update on the American Dental Association regarding the organizations collaboration with the Army Dental Corps from Mr. Michael Graham, Senior Vice President, ADA Government and Public Affairs. Additionally, key strategic leaders, to include BG Shan Bagby., COL Dianne Pannes and COL Pete Guevara, provided briefs on leadership development, future of the Army Dental Corps, talent management, broadening opportunities and the impact of the National Defense Authorization Act on military medicine.



JLC Attendees with BG Bagby at the ADA House (L-R): MAJ Jared Beam, CPT Troy Gessner, CPT Kyle Reed, CPT Rikki Winslow, BG Shan Bagby, CPT Brandon Wolf, CPT Ryan Park, CPT Jared Hansen, and MAJ Eduardo DeCardona.





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## 2108 Joseph L. Bernier Awards Competition Winners

The Joseph L. Bernier Awards Competition is sponsored by the Dental and Craniofacial Trauma Research Department (DCTR), U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research. The competition is designed to recognize dental research in the U.S. Army Dental Corps and to select the best scientific research papers written by graduating or recently graduated dental residents. There is one consolidated competitive category for research performed in conjunction with a Master of Science degree program, bench top project, literature review or case study. Six research projects were submitted for the competition. A four judge panel consisting of Army, Air Force, and Navy researchers judged the submissions using a set scoring criteria. The total points were tallied by the Committee Chair. Congratulations to this years winners:

**First Place Winner:** CPT Martin Smallidge, “Human Gingival Epithelial Growth In Vitro on a Polymer-Infiltrated Ceramic Network Restorative Material”.

**Second Place Winner:** CPT Nisha Patel, “The inflammatory potential of bis-acrylic composite and polymethyl methacrylate with varying topography and in the presence of lipopolysaccharide”.

**Third Place Winner:** MAJ Joshua Pruden, “Immunohistochemical Phenotype Analysis of Cells Associated with Pulpal Mineralized Extracellular Matrix in a Porcine Endodontic Regeneration Model”.

[Bernier Winners Announcement](#)

## Army Dental Lab (ADL) Update

This month the ADL would like to highlight the value of recycling your metal scraps. Not every metal item is acceptable and obviously precious metals need to be offered to the patient first, but there are a lot of benefits to recycling metals through the ADL. Please review the presentation highlighted below explaining all of the necessary details.

[ADL - What do I do with this metal?](#)



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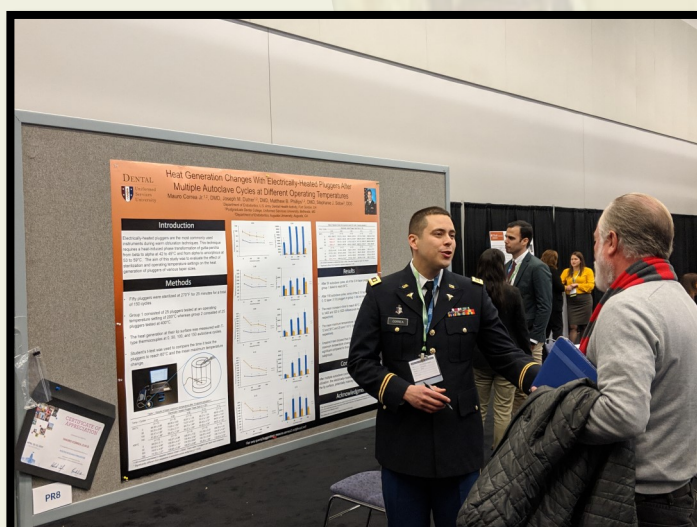
## AOC Highlight - 63E, Endodontist

Army Endodontics continues to build on a rich tradition of excellence, dedication, and collegiality. Nowhere else was this more evident than at the recent American Association of Endodontists (AAE) Annual Session. All of the endodontic research projects were well polished, and the dedicated efforts of the residents were clearly evident. The AAE research evaluators considered one of these research presentations to be among the best in the world. Congratulations to CPT Scott Otterson and the Ft. Gordon research team for winning a top ten award!

### Excellence in Research

The following residents presented their research at the AAE conference in Montreal.

- MAJ Bonnie Boudreaux - Endodontic Treatment Planning the First Molar: A Comparison Survey of General Dentists and Endodontists.
- MAJ Tyler Burningham - Survey of Endodontists' Restorative Preference Following Endodontic Therapy.
- MAJ Mauro Correa - Heat Generation Changes with Electrically-Heated Pluggers after Multiple Autoclave Cycles at Different Operating Temperatures.
- MAJ James Phillips - Survey of Endodontists' Preference for the Treatment of External Cervical Resorption Based on Periapical and Cone Beam Computed Tomography Images
- CPT(P) Roland Miguel - Apical Pressures Generated by the XP-3D Finishers and Irrigation Adjuncts
- CPT(P) Carleen Sells - Endodontics on YouTube: Evaluation of Content Compared to Evidence Based Standards.
- CPT Scott Otterson - Surface Integrity of Root Ends Following Apical Resection with Guided Trephine Burs.



Fort Gordon Endo Alumnus (1993-1995), Dr. Michael Ford, visits MAJ Mauro Correa's poster presentation at the AAE Annual Session.



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## AOC Highlight Cont.

### Dedication to Reach a Professional Pinnacle

The Army was well represented at this year's Grossman Ceremony. Tied to the AAE Annual Session, this annual event honors those endodontists who have dedicated the countless hours of additional effort required to achieve Board Certification from the American Board of Endodontics. This year, the Army had 12 alumni recognized (more than the Air Force and Navy combined)! Congratulations to the new Diplomates of the American Board of Endodontics:

LTC Eric Ashley	Dr. Collin Clatanoff
MAJ Aleksandr Baron	MAJ Joshua Gailey
LTC Jason Bullock	MAJ Kurt Goodell
Dr. Matt Carlson	MAJ Aaron Innes
Dr. Diana Choi	MAJ Jonathan Mason
MAJ Ryan Romero	Dr. Matthew Thompson

### Collegiality

A big thank you to MAJ Aleks Baron and MAJ Jasmin de Guzman who helped to coordinate the Army Endodontic Social event in Montreal. At this event there were dozens of current and former Army Endodontists who were able to collaborate and strengthen the Army Endodontic Community. It was a highly successful event!

### Future of Endodontics

The bright future of endodontics is a result of innovative endodontic technology and a robust desire of talented clinicians who seek endodontic training.

The main technological concepts in which we see significant advancement is in the conservation of tooth structure and improved canal cleaning. Traditionally, those two concepts did not go together; however, with emerging technology they appear to coexist. Recent advancements now make it possible to utilize a CBCT image to statically or dynamically guide an endodontist's hand allowing for precision access during apical surgery or preserving pericervical dentin while completing a coronal access for challenging canal systems. Many of these advancements were originally intended for implant placement, but they may be even more important in preventing the need for an implant by saving teeth through precision endodontics. Additionally there are promising innovations in the area endodontic canal irrigation which may make it possible to have cleaner canal systems with smaller canal preparation sizes. These advances together with well-trained, discerning clinicians will continue to improve our ability to preserve our patients' teeth for a lifetime!

*LTC Daniel Kersten  
Endodontic Program Director, Ft. Bragg*

*LTC Joseph Dutner  
Endodontic Program Director, Ft. Gordon*





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## Army Dentists Attend Military Health System's (MHS) Female Physician's Leadership Course



From left to right: MAJ Adrienne Rembert, LTC Kimberly Inouye, LTC Diane Weber, BG Shan Bagby, MAJ Jennette O'Bryhim, and CPT (P) Stephanie Helmus, COL Brett Henson.

LTC Kimberly Inouye, LTC Diane Weber, MAJ Adrienne Rembert, MAJ Jennette O'Bryhim, and CPT (P) Stephanie Helmus, were the five Army Dental Corps Officers selected to participate in the annual MHS Female Physician's Leadership Course on April 1-3, at DHHQ in Falls Church, Virginia. The event was attended by over 100 physicians from all Services, including the Public Health Service. The Female Physician's Leadership Course was initially created to recognize the relative paucity of senior female healthcare providers within leadership positions (O-6 and above) within the MHS. This leadership program is deliberately aimed at developing women leaders who have proven successful in other venues, and therefore is designed to mentor emerging healthcare leaders and assist them in acquiring the critical skills and networks needed to be successful both in the near term and at more senior levels. Some of the senior leaders who spoke at the event included VADM Raquel Bono, RADM Robin Ikeda, RADM Dana Thomas, RADM Erica Schwartz, BG (P) Telita Crosland, BG Jill Faris, BG Shannon Bannister, and RDML Anne Swap.

All shared their experiences and provided sage advice on how to circumnavigate the waters of leadership as females. They expressed words of encouragement in the road ahead and gave uplifting evidence of lives well-lived, which extended beyond that of the work environment. Both the guest speakers and the Service Lead Panel were living examples of the fact that great achievements can be made while donning the hat of Soldier, physician/dentist, wife, mother, etc. The challenges and experiences shared are ubiquitous among healthcare professionals, and as a result providers from all backgrounds were able to unite and support one another through networking and dialogue, which resulted in the professional and personal development of all who attended.



From left to right: LTC Kimberly Inouye, LTC Diane Weber, CPT (P) Stephanie Helmus, MAJ Adrienne Rembert, and MAJ Jennette O'Bryhim.



From left to right: Brig Gen Sharon Bannister (Deputy Assistant Director, Education and Training, DHA and Air Force Assistant Surgeon General for Dental Services); MAJ Jennette O'Bryhim, and LTC Kimberly Inouye





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## Dental Health Command - Pacific Update

This month we are proud to highlight the recent achievements and accomplishments of the DHC-Pacific Soldiers and civilians Please [CLICK HERE](#) for full pictures and highlights.

### Dental Health Activity – Alaska

DHA Alaska enjoyed conducting a winter resiliency event to test the unit. The unit was instructed to wear the proper Alaskan cold weather gear and meet for training at the Ft. Wainwright Birch Hill Ski Lodge and then tested on how to interact and communicate in negative degree weather. This team building activity encouraged all personnel to continuously motivate and encourage one another to get through this winter resiliency activity (Consider revising based on flow from pervious sentence).



COL David A. Mott  
Commander, DHC-P



SGM Johnathan Quayle  
DHC-P Sergeant Major

### Dental Health Activity - Japan

The 65th Tri-Service Dental Symposium was held from 11-14 Mar 19 at New Sanno Hotel in Tokyo, Japan. Attendees included the Army, Navy, and Air Force of the Pacific Region to include Hawaii, Alaska, Korea, Okinawa, Joint Base Lewis McChord, Joint Base San Antonio and the mainland of Japan. Japanese Self Defense Force and Japanese civilians attended as well. Specialists from each sister service presented various topics within their specialty. Additionally, the venue allowed military dentists to receive professional continuing dental education credit while fostering camaraderie, and the opportunity to build professional and personal relationships that will endure for many years to come.



### Dental Health Activity - JBLM

JBLM DENTAC conducted the NCO/Soldier of the year competition on 28-30 January 2019. The competition consisted of the Army Physical Fitness Test, Land Navigation, weapons qualification, combatives, Army Warrior Tasks lanes, First Aid proficiency, a 12-mile road march, and an oral board. SPC Tanisha Robinson won the competition and was selected to compete at the DHC-P Best Warrior Competition.



JBLM DENTAC Color Guard Soldiers participated in the Black Hills Youth Baseball opening ceremony on 16 March 2019.

Color Guard Soldiers from left to right: SPC Diamond Brown, SPC Ronald Miller, SPC Michaelangelo Ascallon, and PV2 Viviana Alejandro. Color Guard Sergeant: SSG Desiree Maxey





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## Dental Health Command - Pacific Update

### Dental Health Activity - Korea

On Wednesday, 3 April, the 618th CDR along with the DCC-S, XO and S3 traveled to the Armed Forces Capital Hospital in Seungnam. The team met with COL Hong, the CDR of ROKA Dental and the acting Chief of the ROKA Dental Corps and LTC Roh, his executive officer. The ROKA team gave a brief tour of their dental facilities and capabilities. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the plans of 618th's first combined ROK/US Field Dental FTX during the first week of June. Agreements were made to demonstrate each side's capabilities, conduct combined TC3, triage training and AWTs.



On Friday, 5 April, the CDR and 18 providers travelled to DanKook University Dental Hospital to present the first lecture series of the Clinical Academic Exchange Program. An MoU was established in February between COL McGhee and the Director of the Hospital, Dr. Chul-Hwan Kim. The event began with a short tour of their various specialty clinics and a capabilities brief. 618th's MAJ Lee gave a lecture on prosthodontics on the US side. 618th DC(AS)/DENTAC-K will host DanKook in the next lecture o/a summer 2019 to provide continuing education and a shared understanding of dental support with our counterparts.



## A Look at the Burden of Dental Emergencies in Theater

In April, *Military Medicine* published a report titled "The Burden on Dental Emergencies, Oral-Maxillofacial, and Cranio-Maxillofacial Injuries in US Military Personnel." Objectives included finding the incidence of dental emergencies (DE) as well as cranio and oral-maxillofacial (CMF/OMF) injuries in US military personnel during deployment, and comparing the rates of occurrence between to the 20th and 21st centuries. The report reveals the prevalent rate of DE and CMF/OMF injuries that can be expected in deployed situations adding to the relevance our dentists have in maintaining readiness and treating injured Soldiers. Please follow the link below to understand the method and view the final results.

[The Burden of Dental Emergencies](#)