

A close-up photograph of a dentist wearing a head-mounted microscope and a patient in a dental chair. The dentist is in the foreground, looking down at the patient. The patient is in the background, wearing a green dental bib. The image is used as a background for a promotional graphic for the Center for Innovation and Translation at the University of the Pacific.

# Center for Innovation and Translation

*BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS TO ADVANCE CLINICAL RESEARCH,  
SUPPORT ORAL HEALTH AND HELP PEOPLE LEAD HEALTHY LIVES*

UNIVERSITY OF THE  
**PACIFIC**  
Arthur A. Dugoni  
School of Dentistry



# OVERVIEW

*The Center for Innovation and Translation is an exciting new venture that will drive clinical research partnerships to support the oral and overall health of people in the United States and beyond.*

The Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry’s location in the San Francisco Bay Area puts it at the heart of innovation across many fields, including biotechnology, big data, artificial intelligence and emerging technologies of all kinds. In support of the Dugoni School’s purpose to help people live healthy lives, the center will bring together internal and external collaborators to develop innovation and translate clinical research into practice.

How does an innovative idea become part of clinical practice? Industry service providers, technology companies, universities, funding partners and health experts all play a part in the process. The center will be a base for both commercial and noncommercial academic-driven activities to help turn ideas into reality.



With continued success, the center will be poised to generate income to ultimately help fund and subsidize future students’ education, scholarships and innovative activities. Dental students and faculty will also benefit from new teaching and learning experiences as a result of research partnerships.



# GOALS

The Center for Innovation and Translation will formally launch in mid-2022, and several projects are already underway. Additional resources are currently being developed to help the center reach the following goals:

- Facilitate **small pilot innovative** activities and **clinical studies** to drive evidence for larger, better informed and more significant grant applications for translational and clinical research.
- Continue and expand **commercial collaborations** for showcasing innovation and serial sponsored clinical research studies.
- Engage current faculty** in innovation and clinical research projects of any and all varieties, building this research culture into the clinical workforce.
- Serve as home for the Dugoni School’s “Biobank”** to facilitate a whole new era of patient sampling and clinical assessment and investigation for global academic and commercial access. Work will include big-data analysis to find links between oral and general health; use of salivary diagnostics to improve our ability to diagnose and treat oral and systemic conditions; research into salivary biomarkers through metagenomic analysis; and other studies of the oral microbiome.
- Expand practice-based research and innovative activities by **engaging our alumni community**.
- Launch multi-center clinical studies** funded either by commercial companies or noncommercial entities such as the National Institutes of Health (NIH).
- Support scientific value and income generation** in parallel through clinical research studies funded and sponsored by commercial companies or funded by the company and sponsored by the dental school.

# STRUCTURE AND LEADERSHIP

An advisory board is currently being formed and includes senior administrators and leaders from the Dugoni School as well as representatives from outside the school. Advisory board members will also represent organizations such as the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research, practice-based research networks and commercial technology companies. The board will also include a microbiome specialist, and a patient or public representative. In the future, the Center for Innovation and Translation is expected to include a clinical research manager, research nurses, research dentists and statisticians/methodologists.



UNIVERSITY OF THE  
**PACIFIC**  
Arthur A. Dugoni  
School of Dentistry



## HOW TO GET INVOLVED

If you have questions about clinical research activities or advisory board involvement, or would like to learn more, please contact:

**Director of the Center for Innovation and Translation**

**Rebecca Moazzez BDS, MSc, PhD, FDSRCS, FDSRCS (Rest.), MRD**

*Professor, Chair of Department of Preventive and Restorative Dentistry*

*Henry Sutro Family Endowed Chair in Restorative Dentistry*

University of the Pacific, Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry

155 Fifth Street, San Francisco, CA 94103

Tel. 415.780.2068 | [rmoazzez@pacific.edu](mailto:rmoazzez@pacific.edu)

*Dr. Moazzez joined the Dugoni School in 2021 to lead the Department of Preventive and Restorative Dentistry. Previously, she was professor of Prosthodontics and Oral Clinical Research at King's College London school of Dentistry in the UK, where she began teaching in 1998, focusing on predoctoral and specialty prosthodontics. In 2013, she also served as the college's founding director of the Oral Clinical Research Unit, which has attracted over \$7M of funding since its conception. She has over 50 publications in referred journals and has a personal grant income of \$4M.*

## ABOUT UNIVERSITY OF THE PACIFIC, ARTHUR A. DUGONI SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY

University of the Pacific, Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry is committed to providing student-centered educational programs and the highest quality oral health care in the Bay Area. Our commitment to helping people lead healthy lives is evidenced by our university-run clinics that provide affordable care for adults and children from across the region. As a leader in dental education, our programs prepare healthcare providers for current, future and evolving practice models. Learn more at [dental.pacific.edu](https://dental.pacific.edu).