

January 2020 Newsletter

BEHSR

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For questions or contributions, contact:
 Cameron Randall
 CLR333@uw.edu

President's Message

Greetings BEHSR Colleagues!

The year 2020 promises to be a momentous one for our BEHSR group. We have full and innovate scientific programs that coincide with the Centennial meeting of the International/American/Canadian Association for Dental Research, which will be held in Washington, D.C., USA in March, less than three months away!



As I hope you have heard by now, **BEHSR is sponsoring the Behavioral and Social Oral Health Sciences Summit on Monday, March 16 (all day) and Tuesday, March 17 (morning), a Satellite Symposium held in conjunction with the IADR Centennial meeting.** This is an inaugural international conference and the first comprehensive meeting specifically for behavioral and social oral health sciences in over 25 years. The deadline to submit abstracts is January 17, 2020, and the deadline for registration (which is free) is February 15, 2020. I highly encourage you to attend this event, which will include engaging programming, lively discussion of contemporary issues in the field, and opportunities for networking. A concluding consensus statement and published proceedings will follow. For more information, please visit www.bsosummit2020.com/.

Also prior to the IADR meeting, and **following the Summit, there is an outstanding 2020 Oral Epidemiology Forum (Epi-Forum) planned for Tuesday afternoon.** The keynote speaker will be Dr. Enrique Schisterman, senior investigator and chief of the Epidemiology Branch of the NIH Division of Intramural Population Health Research and Editor-in-Chief of the *American Journal of Epidemiology*. There will be trainee presentations, too. I highly encourage you to attend the Epi-Forum, which is free of additional charge. See page 2 of this newsletter for more information and registration details.

At the IADR Centennial meeting in Washington, D.C., BEHSR is sponsoring Hands-on Workshops and symposia as well as Breakfast Breakthrough, oral, poster, and ePoster Discussion sessions. **We will hold a business meeting and awards ceremony on Thursday, March 19, from 5-6 pm, and a networking cocktail hour following from 6-7 pm.** Our BEHSR committees have been actively engaged in selecting from an outstanding array of abstracts for various awards and will select other Group award winners soon. **Please note that the deadline for submitting 2019 articles for consideration for the prestigious Giddon (behavioral sciences) and Sheiham (dental public health sciences) Awards is January 10, 2020!**

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How to Donate to BEHSR:

Thanks to those of you who have contributed to our Group Awards accounts! To contribute to BEHSR general or specific funds, such as awards, please use one of the following options to make your contribution:

1. Mail a check (payable to "IADR") to Sheri S. Herren (see contact info). Please indicate in writing the amount and intent of the contribution i.e. "\$100 for the Giddon Award fund" in both a letter and on the check.
2. To contribute via credit/debit card, please call IADR GHQ at +1.703.548.0066 to make the donation by telephone.

Sheri S. Herren, Strategic Programs Manager
 International & American Associations for Dental Research
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BEHAVIORAL
AND SOCIAL
ORAL HEALTH SCIENCES
SUMMIT



March 16–17, 2020 // Washington, D.C. USA
Held in conjunction with the 98th General Session and Exhibition of the IADR

Abstracts due January 17 — Register by February 15

More information at www.bsosummit2020.com

The 2020 Behavioral and Social Oral Health Sciences Summit coincides with the IADR Centennial and seeks to promote oral health globally by advancing the robust application of behavioral and social sciences. To that end, the Summit has been organized to build consensus among behavioral and social oral health scientists and clinicians about essential foci and critical next steps, and to foster transdisciplinary collaboration. Join us for this inaugural international conference!

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

The BEHSR Executive Committee is excited to introduce the “Member Spotlight,” a new feature of our quarterly newsletter. The Spotlight will highlight the accomplishments and recent or current research of BEHSR members. First up, meet Dr. Borrelli!



Belinda Borrelli, PhD, is Professor at Boston University (BU), Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine, where she is also Director of the Center for Behavioral Science Research and Director of BU's Mobile and Electronic Health Affinity Research Collaborative. She is also a permanent Visiting Professor at the University of Manchester, UK. Dr. Borrelli is a clinical psychologist and an expert in motivating health behavior change. She has given invited expert testimony to HRSA and given hundreds of national and international presentations on motivating health behavior change. In 2015, she was named a TEDMED Research Scholar. She is the recipient of numerous NIH grant awards to develop and test theory-based interventions that are delivered in public health contexts, across a wide variety of health behaviors (e.g., smoking, oral health, diet, medication and treatment adherence), and particularly among people who are not motivated to change and among underserved populations. She has developed and tested mobile health platforms to initiate and sustain

health behavior change, including apps, text messaging programs, and remote monitoring. She is PI of an NIDCR-funded project that motivates smokers to quit using video shown through a virtual reality headset during a dental cleaning. The results of the pilot study are published in [Translational Behavioral Medicine](#) (2019). She is also lead Co-PI (Dr. Michelle Henshaw, Co-PI), on an NIDCR-funded project focusing on preventing early childhood caries in a high-risk population. In that study, parents with children under the age of 7 are recruited from urban community pediatric clinics and randomized to receive one of two different text message programs: one to motivate a constellation of pediatric oral health behaviors and the other focusing on child wellness. The texts are automated, highly customized, and involve gamification. The results of the pilot study were published in 2019 in the [Journal of Medical Internet Research mHealth and uHealth](#), and a larger NIDCR-funded trial has recruited 695 families to date. Dr. Borrelli is a fairly new member to BEHSR, and she looks forward to building collaborations with other members.

If you're interested in being featured in an upcoming Member Spotlight, contact Cameron Randall (CLR333@uw.edu).

2020 Oral Epidemiology Forum • March 17 • 1 - 4:30pm

The Epi-Forum is BEHSR's annual event focused on research methods in dental and oral epidemiology, biostatistics, and population health.

Keynote by Enrique Schisterman, NIH Division of Intramural Population Health Research!

Student/trainee presentations!

We are now inviting current students, residents, post-doctoral scholars and early career investigators to submit "works in progress" abstracts for presentation and discussion at the Epi-Forum. Abstracts are due **Wednesday, January 22, 2020**. New this year, we plan to match each presenter with an expert mentor for personalized feedback prior to the public presentation.

Submit abstracts and direct questions to Benjamin Chaffee, Organizing Committee Chair (benjamin.chaffee@ucsf.edu). RSVP for the Epi-Forum [here](#).

Fresh Insights

With the enthusiastic support of BEHSR members present at the business meeting in Vancouver, our Group created two new positions on the Executive Committee to increase the representation of trainees in Group governance and to provide leadership opportunities to budding researchers. In its first year, many nominations were received for both the International and North American Student/Trainee Representative positions. We are pleased to announce a new column aimed at amplifying the voice of BEHSR student members and showcasing the work of BEHSR students/trainees. In subsequent issues of the newsletter, the Student/Trainee Representatives will lead the production of this column. But first, we'd like to introduce you to your Representatives, who have been actively serving the Executive Committee since September!

Helena Silveira Schuch **Student/Trainee Representative – International**

Helena is a postdoctoral research fellow at the Federal University of Pelotas (Brazil) and a visiting researcher with the University of Adelaide (Australia). Her research interests include inequalities in health, focusing on socioeconomic and racial inequalities in oral health. At the 2020 IADR meeting, Helena will be discussing socioeconomic oral health inequalities over the life course, presenting findings from a decomposition analysis on data from the 1982 Pelotas Birth Cohort Study.

Helena previously was a research associate at the Better-Start Child Health and Development Research Group in the School of Public Health at the University of Adelaide (2017-19). Helena holds a PhD in Population Oral Health from the Australian Research Centre for Population Oral Health (ARCPOH) at the University of Adelaide; she completed a Masters in Dentistry and undergraduate course in Dentistry at the Federal University of Pelotas.

As an early career researcher, Helena appreciates how involvement with IADR/BEHSR promotes learning and networking opportunities with senior and young researchers from a range of disciplines.

Miguel Simancas-Pallares **Student/Trainee Representative, North America**

Miguel conducts his research at the Division of Pediatric & Public Health in the Adams School of Dentistry at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. As a member of an

interdisciplinary team (PI: Kimon Divaris) of clinicians, epidemiologists, social scientists, biostatisticians and bioinformaticians, Miguel's research contributes to the understanding of both social and biological influences on early childhood oral health. Specifically, his major focus is the development and validation of clinical subtypes of early childhood caries (ECC) using existing clinical data from a large cohort of preschool-age children in North Carolina. Essentially, surface-level data on dental caries experience are being carried forward to latent class analysis (LCA) to identify distinct profiles (i.e., latent classes) of ECC. Subsequently, these ECC clinical subtypes will be interrogated against social context, behavioral and biological data layers. Ultimately, it is expected that this approach will help in the development of better clinical classification and management of ECC.

Miguel earned his DDS from Universidad de Cartagena (Colombia) and a Master of Science in epidemiology from Universidad Nacional de Colombia. He also holds a certificate in statistics from Universidad Tecnológica de Bolívar (Colombia).

One of the things Miguel values the most about being a member of the BEHSR Scientific Group is the scientific family feeling during events and in-person interactions with other members. The high level of constructivism and professionalism within the group makes him eager to attend every meeting. In addition, every BEHSR event offers a unique opportunity for establishing possible collaborations and partnerships with the most knowledgeable scientists within the field around the world.

*If you have ideas for the Student/Trainee Corner, contact
Cameron Randall, BEHSR Secretary/Treasurer (CLR333@uw.edu).*

#IADR100

Behavioral science featured in JDR's celebratory series!

As part of IADR's year-long celebration of the 100th anniversary of the *Journal of Dental Research*, BEHSR member Colman McGrath's article, "Behavioral Sciences in the Promotion of Oral Health," was published in the December 2019 issue. [Give it a read!](#)

And, check out the accompanying [podcast](#), part of the #JDR100 series, in which Colman and BEHSR member Lois Cohen discuss the article.

Follow BEHSR on social media!



@BEHSRofIADR

Want to get more involved? Join the BEHSR Executive Committee!

BEHSR is seeking enthusiastic members to join the Executive Committee! Various positions appointed by the Executive Committee will be opening soon, with terms beginning at the 2020 IADR/AADR/CADR General Session.

The **Symposium Coordinator** organizes the evaluation and endorsement of symposia, Hands-on Workshops, Lunch-and-Learn, and Breakfast Breakthrough sessions sponsored by the BEHSR Group, for both the IADR General Session and the AADR Annual Meeting.

This person serves in the role for one year before automatically succeeding to the role of Group Program Chair the following year.

There are two Director positions on the Executive Committee, the **International Director** (from outside North America) and the **North American Director**. Duties include abstract and award reviewing and involvement in BEHSR governance. The term is three years.

The **Student/Trainee Representative - International** and **Student/Trainee Representative - North America** represent student/trainee interests and serve as abstract reviewers and in other capacities identified by the group. The term is one year.

Please watch your email for the official Call for Nominations for these positions, which will be sent in mid-January. Direct any questions to BEHSR President Dan McNeil (dmcneil@uw.edu) or BEHSR Secretary/Treasurer Cameron Randall (clr333@uw.edu).

President's Message continued...

More information and nomination instructions for the Giddon and Sheiham Awards are available at <https://www.iadr.org/IADR/Awards/Scientific-Group-Awards/BEHSR>. Appreciation is expressed to our members who proposed their research for the IADR Centennial meeting, and to the BEHSR officers and committee members who tirelessly invested many hours in reviewing abstracts and organizing events.

In 2019, **BEHSR initiated student/trainee positions on its Executive Committee to more fully engage students and early career scientists in the governance of the group, represent their interests, and promote a legacy of future group leadership.** Thanks to our new Student/Trainee Representatives who volunteered and were selected to join the BEHSR Executive Committee this year: Helena Silveira Schuch (International representative) and Miguel Simancas-Palleras (North America representative). Thanks also to all BEHSR members who participated in the elections this year, which resulted in a fine slate of new officers.

It has been an exciting, wonderful year to serve as President of BEHSR. And, it has been my honor to serve with an outstanding group of colleagues in the BEHSR Executive Committee; they are devoted to promoting oral health worldwide through research in behavioral and social factors, epidemiology, and health services. I look forward to celebrating the IADR Centennial with all of you in 2020!

Best wishes and thank you for being a part of BEHSR,
Dan McNeil

CURRENT OFFICERS 2019-2020

President:

Daniel W. McNeil (dmcneil@wvu.edu)

Immediate Past President:

Christopher Okunseri (christopher.okunseri@mu.edu)

Vice President:

George Tsakos (g.tsakos@ucl.ac.uk)

Secretary/Treasurer:

Cameron L. Randall (clr333@uw.edu)

Group Program Chair:

Jacqueline Burgette (jacqueline@pitt.edu)

Symposium Coordinator:

Tamanna Tiwari (Tamanna.tiwari@ucdenver.edu)

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Joana Cunha-Cruz (silvajcc@uw.edu)

Santosh Tadakamadla, Alternate (s.tadakamadla@griffith.edu.au)

AAADR Councilors:

Ben Chaffee (benjamin.chaffee@ucsf.edu)

Marisol Tellez, Alternate (Marisol.tellez.merchan@temple.edu)

International Directors:

1st Year— Dandara Haag (dandara.haag@adelaide.edu.au)

3rd Year— Barry Gibson (b.j.gibson@sheffield.ac.uk)

North American Directors:

1st Year— Sonia Makhija (smakhija@uab.edu)

2nd Year— Ben Chaffee (benjamin.chaffee@ucsf.edu)

Student/Trainee Representative—International:

Helena Silveira Schuch (helenasschuch@gmail.com)

Student/Trainee Representative—North American:

Miguel Simancas-Palleras (simancas@email.unc.edu)