



# IADR

International Association  
for Dental Research

Women in Science Network

The Women in Science Network aims to serve the need for promoting the interests of women, communication, research collaboration and career mentoring among – but not restricted to – female members.

## Fall 2022

### Message from the WISN President

This year we had an opportunity to finally meet some colleagues in person during the AADOCR meeting in Atlanta, GA. A sense of normalcy is gradually returning to our lives, and we can now work enthusiastically towards the upcoming 2023 AADOCR and IADR in-person meetings.

It is time to make an effort to apply the lessons learned from the pandemic towards policies and initiatives that will support and increase women representation in the dental, oral, and craniofacial sciences leadership. A recent study published by our group demonstrated that institutional policies have a direct effect on mental health and well-being of female academicians. More information on our manuscript is presented below in this newsletter! We hope to see you *in person* in the upcoming AADOCR meeting in Portland, Oregon.

Sincerely,

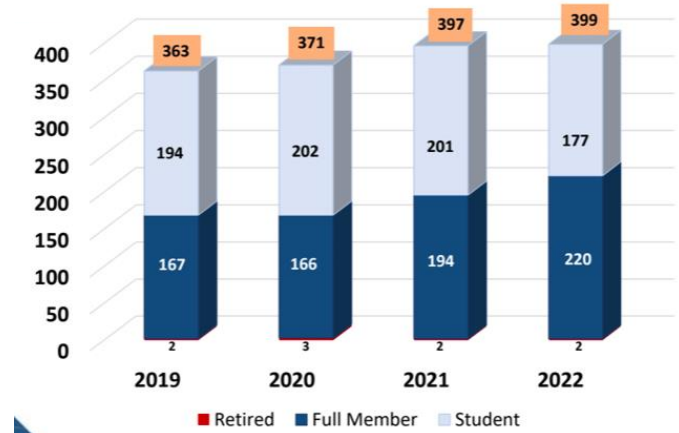
Grace De Souza

WISN President 2022-2023

Check out our website on how to join us:  
<https://www.iadr.org/membership/communities/groups-networks/women-science-network>



### WISN Membership



### WISN Officers

#### President

Grace De Souza  
University of Louisville  
[Grace.desouza@louisville.edu](mailto:Grace.desouza@louisville.edu)



#### President Elect

Ariadne Letra  
University of Pittsburgh  
[Ariadneletra@pitt.edu](mailto:Ariadneletra@pitt.edu)



#### Vice President

Patricia Miguez  
University of North Carolina Chapel Hill  
[patricia\\_miguez@unc.edu](mailto:patricia_miguez@unc.edu)



#### Past President

Luciana Shaddox  
University of Kentucky  
[Lshaddox@uky.edu](mailto:Lshaddox@uky.edu)



#### Secretary/Treasurer

Mangala Patel  
Queen Mary University of London  
[m.patel@qmul.ac.uk](mailto:m.patel@qmul.ac.uk)



#### Group Program Coordinator

Modupe Coker  
New Jersey Dental School  
[mc2190@sdm.rutgers.edu](mailto:mc2190@sdm.rutgers.edu)



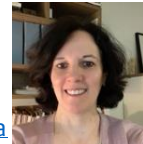
#### IADR Councilor

Effie Ioannidou  
University of Connecticut  
[ioannidou@uchc.edu](mailto:ioannidou@uchc.edu)



#### IADR Symposium Organizer

Celine Levesque  
University of Toronto  
[celine.levesque@dentistry.utoronto.ca](mailto:celine.levesque@dentistry.utoronto.ca)



#### AAADOCR Proposal Coordinator

Erica Teixeira  
University of Iowa  
[erica-teixeira@uiowa.edu](mailto:erica-teixeira@uiowa.edu)



We had a busy year with numerous WISN-sponsored sessions at the **2022 AADOCR meeting in Atlanta** and **IADR meeting in China**, many of which were co-sponsored by additional scientific group(s)/network(s).

**AADOCR Meeting  
Highlights  
– Atlanta, March 2022**



Below is a snapshot of WISN sessions presented at the meeting:

**Workshop:**

**WISN – bridging the gap!**

4 amazing speakers:

- Effie Ioannidou, UConn
- Maria Ryan, Colgate
- Marguerita Fontana, UMichigan
- Jessica Lee, UNC Chapel Hill

The symposium was organized in a way that speakers briefly spoke about their professional trajectories and then sat at tables to chat and answer questions from the attendees. There were 4 groups and all attendees had a chance to speak with the presenters. The room was fully booked (37 attendees!!) and the feedback from was excellent!



**Business meeting:**

WISN officers and members gathered to welcome new members, discuss past and current activities, and present the recipients of the WISN Research awards. This was a great opportunity to stay in touch with group members and to finally meet *in person!*

**WISN other sponsored activities:**

WISN sponsored many other in-person, simulcast, and virtual lectures at the meeting!



**Symposium:**

**Sexual Dimorphism in Oral Inflammatory Diseases**

4 amazing speakers:

- Effie Ioannidou, UConn
- Ariadne Letra, UPittsburgh
- Keith Kirkwood, UBuffalo
- Luciana Shaddox, UKentucky

The symposium focused on the implication of sex as a biological variable influencing the genetic, hormonal, and immunological responses of an individual to oral inflammatory diseases.

## WISN publication in the Journal of Dental Education:

### Perception of COVID-19 pandemic restrictions on dental researchers

Grace M. De Souza DDS, MSc, PhD<sup>1</sup> | Tamanna Tiwari MPH, MDS, BDS<sup>2</sup> |  
 Christopher H. Fox DMD, DMSc<sup>3</sup> | Patricia A. Miguez DDS, MS, PhD<sup>4</sup> |  
 Ariadne Letra DDS, MS, PhD<sup>5</sup> | Maria L. Geisinger DDS, MS<sup>6</sup> |  
 Mangala Patel BSc, MSc, PhD<sup>7</sup> | Luciana Shaddox DDS, MS, PhD<sup>8</sup> |  
 Effie Ioannidou DDS, MDS<sup>9</sup>

We are proud to share that the results of a survey conducted by WISN in association with IADR have been published in the Journal of Dental Education! See some highlights of the study “Perception of the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions on dental researchers” below:

- Higher productivity during the pandemic was reported by male researchers and those in senior career stages;
- Institutional support affected productivity of both, men and women;
- Young female researchers reported lower productivity despite longer work hours regardless of work location;
- Women reported being less comfortable about tenure and promotion and using performance indicators for salary increase after the pandemic restrictions.

The full manuscript can be accessed via the link below:

[Perception of COVID-19 pandemic restrictions on dental researchers - De Souza - Journal of Dental Education - Wiley Online Library](#)

## WISN Spotlight:



**Elena Calciolari, DDS (Italy), MS (Perio, Italy), PhD (UK, Italy)**

### Scientific Merit

Main Research Interests: Periodontology and Implant Dentistry. Characterization of the process of bone and periodontal regeneration in healthy and systemically compromised conditions.

### Research Merit

### Scientific Contribution:

Involved in writing evidence-based guidelines for the treatment of periodontitis (British Society of Periodontology).

### Awards:

- Goldman Award for Clinical Research (2014)
- John Zamet prize, Alpha Omega London Chapter and Charitable Trust (2014)
- L’Oréal-UNESCO for Women in Science (2017)
- IADR Women in Science Distinguished Research Award (2018)
- BSODR President’s Prize (2021)
- IADR Joseph Lister’s Award for New Investigators (2021, 2<sup>nd</sup> place)

### Other activities of WISN:



WISN has just started a **new PODCAST with women leaders**



WISN is working on a manuscript from the AADOCR symposium on **SEX and GENDER DIFFERENCES IN ORAL HEALTH**



WISN is contributing with IADR on a requested response to the **NIH ORWH Strategic Plan**



**Session Proposals** for AADOCR Annual Meeting 2023



## 2022 WISN Awards

Congratulations to the 2022 awardees:

### DISTINGUISHED FEMALE MENTOR



**Maria Ryan, DDS, PhD**  
*Vice President, Chief Clinical Officer*  
*Colgate Palmolive Company*

### DISTINGUISHED FEMALE RESEARCHER



**Lakmali Silva, BSc, PhD**  
*Post-doctoral fellow*  
*National Institutes of Health*  
*Bethesda, Maryland, USA*

### PROMISING TALENT AWARD



**Lakshmi Balraj, DMD, MSc**  
*PhD candidate*  
*Maastricht University*  
*Netherlands*

The awards were presented virtually during the WISN business meeting at IADR.



AWARDS WERE SUPPORTED BY:



<https://www.aadocr.org/2023aaam>



**AADOCR**  
American Association for Dental,  
Oral, and Craniofacial Research

## 2023 ANNUAL MEETING

MARCH 15-18, 2023 | PORTLAND, OREGON, USA

52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting & Exhibition of the AADOCR

47<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the CADR

Stay tuned for additional WISN sponsored sessions and activities at the 2023 AADOCR meeting!



@IADR\_WISNetwork



IADR- Women in Science Network

### We want to hear from you!

Do you have suggestions for future events or want to see other highlights in the newsletter?

Please send us an e-mail to:

[grace.desouza@louisville.edu](mailto:grace.desouza@louisville.edu)