

AADOCR Anne D. Haffajee Fellowship Recipients



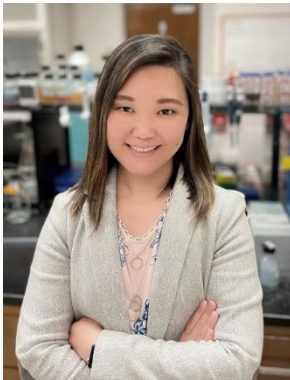
2023 Recipient

Caroline Sawicki

Post-doctoral Fellow, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

“The AADOCR Anne D. Haffajee Fellowship allows me to apply my clinical and translational research skills to investigate a non-pharmacologic technique in pediatric patients with special health care needs to enhance oral health care.”

As a recipient of the 2021 Dr. David Whiston Leadership Award through the American Dental Association Foundation, Sawicki was recognized for demonstrating leadership skills that advance the dental profession through service and scientific advancement of oral public health.



2022 Recipient

Nini Tran

Assistant Professor, University of California, Los Angeles

“I am grateful for the opportunity to have applied for and received the AADR Anne D. Haffajee Fellowship. I am committed to providing underrepresented students opportunities, especially women who strive for academic and science careers.”

Tran is a Diplomat of the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry and an advocate for children. The fellowship support will provide additional laboratory assistance to facilitate her research agenda and generate crucial preliminary data for future R01 grant proposals.



2021 Recipient

Ning Yu

Associate Professor, The Forsyth Institute

“In scientific careers, researchers need to gain some momentum to continue the journey despite setbacks. For me, the Anne Haffajee Fellowship was my momentum in 2021. It also allowed me to gain exposure in the Forsyth/Harvard School of Dental Medicine (HSDM) research community. I have also become a donor since receiving this fellowship and would like to encourage everyone to make an impact on sponsoring researchers, especially juniors.”

Yu received a promotion to Staff Associate at the Forsyth Institute and an instructor position at Harvard University.



2020 Recipient

Fatemeh Momen-Heravi
Associate Professor, Columbia University

“Receiving an IADR award was a major stepping stone in my research career. The recognition and financial support from the award enabled me to pursue new projects, investigate innovative ideas, and attend seminars and conferences. I was also able to present my research findings and gain valuable feedback which allowed me to further develop my ideas. Receiving the award has motivated me to keep pushing forward with my research goals and helped open a number of new doors along the way.”

Momen-Heravi is the 2023 recipient of the IADR Young Investigator Award for her 100+ publications, awards, and honors in research. She is the IADR Young Investigator Representative on the IADR Board of Directors for 2023-2025.



2019 Recipient

Julie Marchesan
Assistant Professor, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

“I cannot express how important the AADOCR Haffajee Fellowship has been to my research. The award aimed to further investigate striking biological sex differences in periodontitis modulation that our group had identified. This was an accidental yet important finding that I had no available funding to support its development. Dr. Haffajee is a legend in the periodontal field, and I am honored to be able to work to help carry her legacy forward.”

Marchesan received her first NIDCR R01 in 2023 - Inflammasome regulation underlying sexual dimorphism in periodontitis. In 2021, she received an NIH NCATS #UL1TR002489 - 550KR272121 - Sex-specific differences in inflammasome modulation of periodontitis.

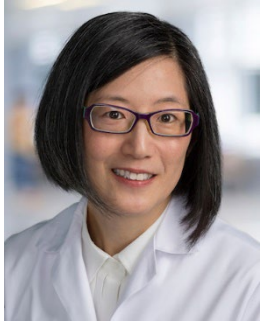


2018 Recipient

Kyounga Cheon
Associate Professor, University of Alabama at Birmingham

“This Fellowship allowed me to develop a collaborative network!”

Cheon received a \$700,000 grant from the Alabama Research and Development Enhancement Fund to develop a novel bioactive dental pulp capping material, in collaboration with Endomimetics, LLC, and BISCO, Inc.



2017 Recipient

Yong-Hee Patricia Chun

Associate Professor, UT Health San Antonio

"I enjoyed the Haffajee Fellowship and it provided me with opportunities to expand my research as well as leadership experience."

Chun recently became a program director for a TL1 Translational Science Training (TST) program for PhD students and postdoctoral fellows.