



**INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION
FOR DENTAL, ORAL, AND
CRANIOFACIAL 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 development** among – but not restricted to – female

Fall 2023

Message from the WISN President

We, the WISN board members, are continuously committed to working towards a better future for women in the dental, oral and craniofacial sciences. With this newsletter, specifically, we want to hear from you! What can we do to reach out to women in need of support? Can you think of any topic that should be discussed, or that women should receive training on, to boost their career progress?

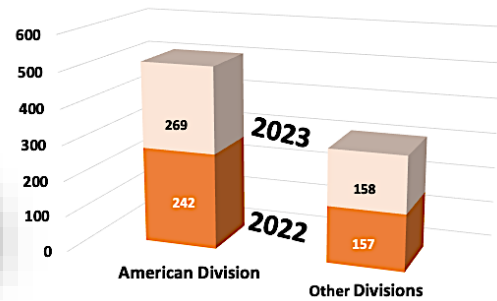
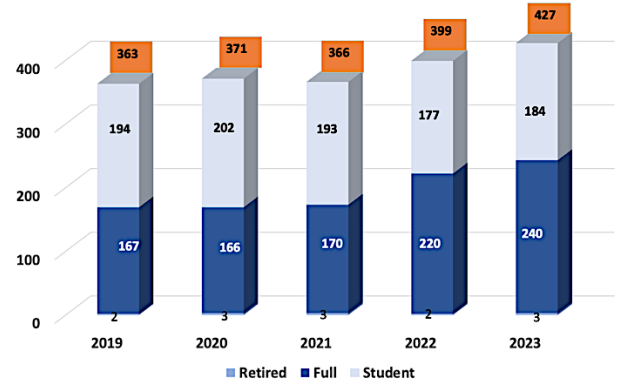
In gender gap discussions, a term that has been often brought to the conversation is “sorority”. According to dictionaries, “sorority” is a club of women, united for a social purpose. Bring it to 2023 and the question is: how can we demonstrate sorority towards one another? How can we support our female colleagues and friends? Maybe a reference letter? Maybe a nomination to an award? Maybe a quick e-mail to check how they are doing? Start today – practice sorority towards other women that may be struggling more than you can imagine! Let’s make this a better world to all of us! We hope to see you *in person* in the upcoming IADR meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana.

Sincerely,
Grace De Souza
WISN President 2023-2024

join us!

<https://www.iadr.org/membership/communities/groups-networks/women-science-network>

WISN Membership



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Summary of 2023 Activities

WISN sponsored several sessions and proposals at the **2023 AADOCR/CADR Annual Meeting & Exhibition in Portland, OR** and **2023 IADR/LAR General Session & Exhibition in Bogota, CO**. Many of these were co-sponsored together with other scientific group(s)/network(s) in a framework of collaboration.

AADOCR Meeting Highlights – Portland, March 2023



A snapshot of WISN sessions presented at the meeting:

WISN – Bridging the Gap! workshop

We had 4 amazing speakers:

- Jennifer Webster-Cyriaque (NIDCR)
- Flavia Pirih (UCLA)
- Simone Duarte (ADASRI)
- Mary McDougal (UBC)

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 (65+ attendees!!) and the feedback was excellent!



Photo taken at the end of the Bridging the Gap! Workshop.

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!*

IADR Meeting Highlights – Bogota, June 2023



Symposium:

Diversity, Equality, Inclusion and Belonging (DEIB) in Dental Education Research

- Eleanor Fleming
- Nathalia Garcia
- Effie Ioannidou
- Nick Jabukovics



Symposium on DEIB and dental education research.

Other IADR 2023 WISN sponsored proposals:

- Assessing Oral Health Disparities Through a Nationally Representative Survey
- Discussing Animal Models of Bone/Dentin Regeneration with Students and Scholars
- High-resolution Oral Biology and Periodontics Research: single-cell technologies
- The Two-way Street Running between Research and Clinical Practice



WISN business meeting in the AADOCR meeting (Portland, OR)

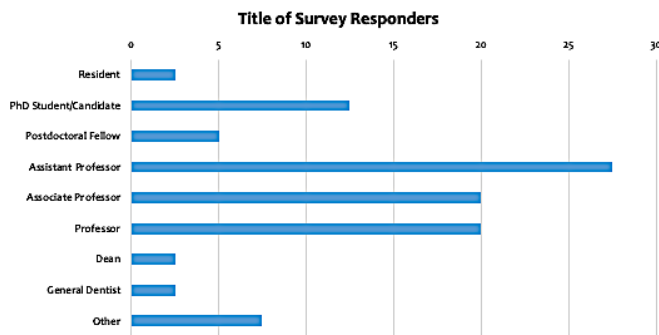
Strategic planning Mission and Goals:



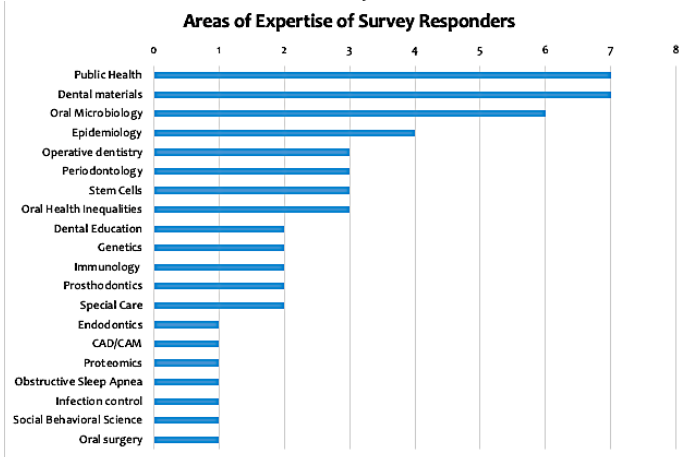
After our recent strategic planning, as a result of our revised mission and goals, a survey was developed to foster collaboration among WISN members:

- The survey was distributed to all the WISN members that expressed their interest in being contacted for research collaboration
- A total of N = 40 WISN members replied to the survey (97.5% were involved in academia)
- Members could exchange their email address to promote future research collaboration and network.

Title of the responders to the survey, expressed in percentage.



Different areas of expertise of the responders to the survey.



WISN Spotlight:



Maisa Omara, BDS, MPH

As a PhD candidate in Public Health at University of Vienna (Austria), Maisa has already received 2 awards from WISN. The first as “Promising Talent” (2021), and now the “Distinguished Female Researcher” with her manuscript *Lessons learned from the first steps of implementing value-based oral health care: a case study from the Medical University of Vienna (J. Evid-Based Dent Practice, M. Omara, T. Stamm and K. Bekes).*

Main Interests: Epidemiology and Dental Public Health. She is also a temporary consultant for WHO on leading epidemiological tasks and trainings in Yemen, Sudan, Lebanon and Jordan. She previously (2010-2014) acted as the focal point for International Health Regulations (IHR), including performing all IHR support activities, such as assessment and implementation of the IHR core capacities, Egyptian Ministry of health and population. So far, she has published over 28 manuscripts looking at metrics and recommendations for health-related quality of life of children and adults.

Future WISN Activities



Mentoring workshop to honor the impact of Dianne Rekow as a mentor to so many of us!



Symposium on salary and negotiation for academicians in various fields and career stages



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



WISN is working on a manuscript from the AADOCR symposium on sex and gender differences in oral health

2023 WISN Awards

Congratulations to the 2023 awardees:

DISTINGUISHED FEMALE MENTOR



**Ana Bedran-Russo, DDS MS
PhD**

*University of Illinois Chicago,
College of Dentistry, USA*

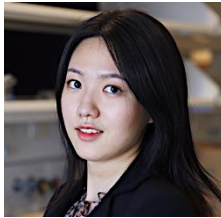
DISTINGUISHED FEMALE RESEARCHER



Maisa Omara, BDS, MPH

*Medical University of Vienna,
Austria*

PROMISING TALENT AWARD



Yao Yao, PhD

*University of Michigan, School of
Dentistry, USA*



Yasmin Jaber, MD

*Faculty of Dental Medicine,
Hebrew University of Jerusalem,
Israel*

The awards were presented during the 2023 IADR/LAR General Session & Exhibition (Bogota, Colombia).

Don't miss the deadline to apply for our awards! Applications are due on **December 15th 2023**.

Check out our award types here: https://www.iadr.org/awards?_page=1&keywords=&_limit=10&topic=102

AWARDS SUPPORTED BY:



<https://www.iadr.org/2024iags>

Stay tuned for additional WISN sponsored sessions & activities at the 2024 AADOCR/IADR!

We want to hear from you!

Do you have suggestions for future events? Click on the link below or use the QR code to answer a simple 2-question survey to help us build the 2025 meetings!

<https://forms.office.com/r/69fFGqr6GU>

Women In Science Network/IADR - quick survey!



Questions? Send us an e-mail: grace.desouza@louisville.edu

@IADR_WISNetwork

IADR- Women in Science Network