The Assistant Dean for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

The Assistant Dean for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion is responsible for collaborative leadership to coordinate initiatives that increase the diversity of the School of Dentistry and enhance the care of the patients we serve. The Assistant Dean cultivates a school-wide commitment to nurture all members of the community where there is a shared stake in the success of all members through inclusive behavior and values. The Assistant Dean serves as an advisor to the School of Dentistry leadership on creating a supportive environment to serve our diverse community of patients. The Assistant Dean also advises the School of Dentistry leadership on institutional issues that relate to diversity, cultural sensitivity, and health inequities to address changes needed to the curriculum that support cultural competency. Additional responsibilities include coordination of the activities and initiatives of the office with the critical stakeholders responsible for diversity, inclusion and health equity across the School of Dentistry. Collaboration with the School of Dentistry leadership, to both engage in and create metrics and monitoring systems, including accountability measures in:

- Recruitment of a diverse community of faculty, staff, students and trainees
- Retention of a diverse community (mentorship, career development, etc.)
- A supportive culture and climate that promotes inclusion
- A culture and climate that supports health equity
- Strategic planning for the school by serving as DEI planning lead for the strategic plan

Additional roles for the Assistant Dean include serving as ex officio member of the Multicultural Affairs Committee (MAC) and a member of the Admissions Committee.

The Assistant Dean also serves as an advisor to the School of Dentistry leadership on matters relating to and serving the interest of all, especially those underrepresented in health care and educationally/economically disadvantaged students, trainees, faculty, and staff. The Assistant Dean also collaborates with the university community to increase diversity, exchange information on best practices, and avoid duplication of efforts. These responsibilities allow the Assistant Dean for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion to represent and expand the University branding “M” throughout communities and education at local, state and national levels.