



# RECAP

## ITL 2025 GRADUATES & ACHIEVEMENTS

*INSTITUTE FOR TEACHING AND  
LEARNING PROGRAM*



# ITL 2025 Program Graduates

## Celebrating the Session Participants with Enhanced Dental Teaching Skills

**The Institute for Teaching and Learning (ITL)** is an annual 4-day onsite program for dental educators to help participants achieve better student outcomes by refining their teaching skills and enhancing the quality of their interactions with students in the classroom and the clinic.

This year's session, held August 25-28, 2025 in Chapel Hill, attracted an audience of new and current dental educators from 33 institutions.

ITL provided hours of intensive, immediately applicable learning for dental, dental hygiene, and dental assisting professionals at all levels, including early-career faculty, private practitioners transitioning into education, and experienced faculty looking to sharpen their teaching skills. Attendees also received complimentary access to the **Fundamentals of Clinical Education (FCE)**, an online, asynchronous program to equip new dental educators with the right tools to succeed and provide 8.5 ADA-CERP CE credits.

The 4-day 2025 ITL program featured these topics among others:

- |   |   |  |  |
|---|---|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Self-discovery as a foundation for effective teaching</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Case-based learning and curriculum integration</li> </ul>              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Effective feedback strategies for student learning</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Technology-enhanced educational activities</li> </ul> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Educational philosophy with purpose and intention</li> </ul>     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scholarship alignment with educational research advancement</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Relationship building and communication</li> </ul>            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adaptive and resilient teaching practices</li> </ul>  |
|   |   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transformative power of mentorship</li> </ul>                 |  |



# Impact & Outcomes

# 95%

of participants gave ITL's clinical teaching scenarios top ratings for immediate applicability—demonstrating the program's practical, action-oriented approach.



As a junior faculty member, this course was incredibly helpful in providing tools to be successful in both the didactic and clinical spaces. I have a renewed confidence and practical recommendations. I've found a new network of colleagues and action items that can be easily implemented. This course exceeded my expectations, and I highly recommend it to all!

~ *Dr. Jazmin Cromartie-Hicks, High Point University*



Dean Janet M. Guthmiller welcomed the 2025 Institute Teaching and Learning faculty and attendees to the Friday Center Conference Center at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.



Educators practice professional and empathic patient communication skills. Dr. Kelton T. Stewart describes the importance of communication practices for fostering a humanistic environment.

# ITL 2025 Attendees & Speakers

## Attendees by Institution

- **Dr. Mohamed Rahhal,**  
A.T. Still University
- **Dr. Kevin Lee Chen,**  
Columbia University
- **Dr. Andrea Stahlecker,**  
Creighton University
- **Dr. Taneet Ghuman,**  
East Carolina University
- **Dr. Claudia P. Millan,**  
Fort Eisenhower DENTAC
- **Dr. Jazmin Cromartie-Hicks,**  
High Point University
- **Dr. Wendy M. Maes,**  
Louisiana State University
- **Dr. Meagan Inclan,**  
Lyon College
- **Dr. Julie Hull,**  
Meharry Medical College
- **Dr. Amana Farrkh,**  
The Ohio State University
- **Dr. Bruce Havens,**  
Oregon Health & Science University
- **Ms. Olga M. Gutierrez,**  
Pacific Northwest University
- **Dr. Owen Cohen,**  
Roseman University of Health Sciences
- **Dr. Chase McKinney,**  
Roseman University of Health Sciences
- **Dr. Nina Ranaldi-O'Connell,**  
Rutgers University
- **Dr. Alexandra Makara,**  
Stony Brook University
- **Dr. Julianna Santos,**  
Texas Tech University



Scholarships were awarded to several attendees from various institutions, recognizing their contributions to dental education.



Faculty members work together to design rigorous learning objectives using Bloom's Taxonomy, developing assessment strategies that align with educational outcomes and provide meaningful feedback to enhance student performance.



Participants identify how to navigate expectations and relationship building in academia. Dr. Lindsey M. Harrow leads the group in developing strategies for cultivating effective student-educator connections.

## Attendees by Institution *continued*

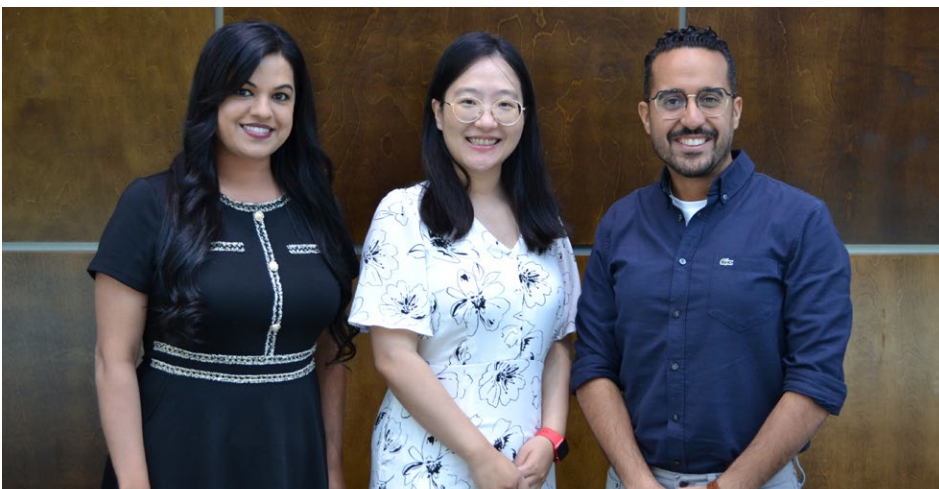


Participants collaborate on evidence-based teaching strategies, integrating clinical case scenarios and technology to enhance student learning. Dr. Jayne S. Reuben led this hands-on session bringing pedagogical theory to life through practical application.

- **Dr. Douglas Sheahan,**  
Touro University
- **Dr. Erick Fernando Gomez Marroquin,**  
Tufts University
- **Dr. Ian J. Kaemmer,**  
Uniformed Services University,  
Air Force
- **Dr. Paul Tsz Tun Lee,**  
Uniformed Services University,  
Air Force
- **Dr. Lindsay Stolpestad,**  
Uniformed Services University,  
Air Force
- **Dr. Russell L. Neal,**  
Uniformed Services University,  
Navy
- **Dr. Omeed A. Rezaie Tirabadi,**  
Uniformed Services University,  
Navy
- **Dr. Chad Taylor,**  
University of Alabama at  
Birmingham
- **Dr. Lillian Bitris,**  
University of Detroit Mercy



Dr. Patricia Sexton led participants in reflective dialogue exploring their teaching philosophies and professional identities.



American Dental Education Association / Academy for Advancing Leadership (ADEA/AAL) 2025 ITL Scholars



American Association of Orthodontists  
Council on Orthodontic Education  
(AAO COE) Scholar

**Attendees by Institution** *continued*

- **Dr. Zina Omari,**  
University of Detroit Mercy
- **Dr. Eleonora Bakiri,**  
University Of Florida
- **Dr. Timothy Followell,**  
University of Louisville
- **Dr. James L Harrison,**  
University of Louisville
- **Dr. Zhaozhao Chen,**  
University of Michigan
- **Dr. Si On Lim,**  
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- **Dr. Stephanie Schaaf,**  
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- **Dr. Amanda Finger Stadler,**  
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- **Dr. Halley R. White,**  
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- **Dr. Alice Arroyo-Julia,**  
University Of Puerto Rico
- **Dr. Shasha Cui,**  
University of Rochester
- **Dr. Anmol Brar,**  
The University of Tennessee Health Science Center
- **Dr. Sangeetha Nedunchezian,**  
University of Washington
- **Dr. Sahar Dowlatshahi,**  
UTHealth Houston
- **Dr. Mostafa Shehabeldin,**  
UTHealth San Antonio
- **Dr. Daniela Mendonca,**  
Virginia Commonwealth University



American Academy of Periodontology Foundation (AAP Foundation) Scholars



American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry (AAPD) and the AAPD Foundation in partnership with CareQuest Institute for Oral Health Scholars



American Dental Association's Council on Dental Education and Licensure (ADA CDEL)



Uniformed Services Scholars

## Speakers

- **Dr. Felicia Tucker-Lively**, AAL Vice President
- **Dr. Lindsey M. Hamil**, Assistant Dean of Student Success and Associate Professor, Medical University of South Carolina
- **Dr. Jayne S. Reuben**, Instructional Professor, Biomedical Sciences and Medical Education, Texas A&M College of Dentistry
- **Dr. Patricia Sexton**, Associate Dean of Medical Education, Professor, Department of Family Medicine, A.T. Still University
- **Dr. Kelton T. Stewart**, James J. Baldwin Endowed Professor, Assistant Dean for Faculty Development, Chair of the Department of Orthodontics, Indiana University School of Dentistry

**ITL 2025** brought together dental educators from across **33** different universities.



# Organizations Investing in ITL Graduates

## Scholarship Winners

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### **American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry (AAPD) and the AAPD Foundation in partnership with CareQuest Institute for Oral Health**

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- **Dr. Timothy Followell**, University of Louisville
- **Dr. Meagan Inclan**, Lyon College
- **Dr. Alexandra Makara**, Stony Brook University

### **American Dental Education Association / Academy for Advancing Leadership (ADEA/AAL)**

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- **Dr. Shasha Cui**, University of Rochester
- **Dr. Amana Farrkh**, The Ohio State University
- **Dr. Mohamed Rahhal**, A.T. Still University

### **American Dental Association's Council on Dental Education and Licensure (ADA CDEL)**

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- **Dr. Alice M. Arroyo-Juliá**, University of Puerto Rico
- **Dr. Jazmin Cromartie-Hicks**, High Point University
- **Dr. James Harrison**, University of Louisville
- **Dr. Julie Hull**, Meharry Medical College
- **Dr. Wendy Maes**, Louisiana State University
- **Dr. Andrea K. Stahlecker**, Creighton University
- **Dr. Lindsay Stolpestad**, Uniformed Services University, Air Force

### **American Association of Orthodontists Council on Orthodontic Education (AAO COE)**

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- **Dr. Bruce Havens**, Oregon Health & Sciences University

### **American Academy of Periodontology Foundation (AAP Foundation)**

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- **Dr. Kevin Chen**, Columbia University
- **Dr. Zhaozhao Chen**, University of Michigan
- **Dr. Sahar Dowlatshahi**, UTHealth Houston
- **Dr. Mostafa Shehabeldin**, UTHealth San Antonio



# Register Now!

## ITL 2026: Atlanta, July 29-August 1

Register by April 14, 2026 for 10% Discount!



[aalgroup.org/itl](https://aalgroup.org/itl)



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