



2026 Institute for Teaching and Learning (ITL)

From Foundation to Innovation: Equipping Dental Educators for a Dynamic, Adaptive Learning Landscape

American Management Association (AMA)
1170 Peachtree Street N.E., 3rd Floor, Atlanta, GA 30309

July 29 – August 1, 2026
Preliminary Outline

Wednesday, July 29 (Day 1): Establishing a Firm Foundation

Participants will explore what it means to be an intentional, reflective educator by examining their own assumptions, strengths, and teaching beliefs. Through guided self-discovery and evidence-based frameworks, this day lays the groundwork for all subsequent learning during the institute.

Eastern Time

8:30 - 9:15 a.m.	Registration Breakfast & Networking Conversations
9:15 - 9:25 a.m.	Opening & Academy for Advancing Leadership (AAL) Welcome ITL Overview
9:25 - 10:05 a.m.	Class of 2025 Introductions
10:05 - 10:15 a.m.	Break
10:15 - 11:15 a.m.	1.1 The Effective Educator: Promoting Learning through Self-Discovery
11:15 - 11:25 a.m.	Break
11:25 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.	1.2 Principles of the Effective Educator
12:45 - 1:30 p.m.	Lunch
1:30 - 2:45 p.m.	1.3 Creating an Educational Philosophy
2:45 - 3:00 p.m.	Break
3:00 - 4:15 p.m.	1.4 Navigating Academic Life Stressors
4:15 - 4:30 p.m.	Evaluation / Q&A
4:30 p.m.	Adjourn

4:30 – 5:30 p.m.	Welcome Reception (Location TBA)
5:30 p.m.	Dinner on Your Own

Thursday, July 30 (Day 2): Stimulating Critical Thinking & Cultivating Creativity

From structuring meaningful assessments to integrating AI and digital tools into the classroom, Day 2 provides practical, evidence-based processes that transform passive learning into active intellectual inquiry. Participants are challenged to move beyond information delivery and into the design of learning experiences that demand higher-order thinking.

Eastern Time

8:00 - 8:45 a.m.	Breakfast & Networking Conversations
8:45 - 10:00 a.m.	2.1 Learner Centered Teaching in Action
10:00 - 10:15 a.m.	Break
10:15 -11:30 a.m.	2.2 Building a Foundation to Support Student Success
11:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.	Lunch
12:15 p.m.- 1:30 p.m.	2.3 Rigor in Objectives and Assessments Using Bloom's Taxonomy
1:30 - 1:45 p.m.	Break
1:45 - 3:15 p.m.	2.4 Incorporating Technology into Educational Activities in the Classroom
3:15 - 3:30 p.m.	Break
3:30 – 4:45 pm	Micro-project Sessions (Part I)
4:45 - 5:00 pm	Evaluation Adjourn Dinner on Your Own

Friday, July 31 (Day 3): Implementing Strategies for Optimized Learning & Outcomes

Day 3 deepens participants' ability to address the full spectrum of learner needs, academic, interpersonal, and clinical. Through scenario-based practice and collaborative case analysis, participants will develop and refine strategies for designing inclusive learning experiences, supporting at-risk students, and fostering the professional communication skills essential to dental health professions education.

Eastern Time

8:30 - 9:15 a.m.	Breakfast & Networking Conversations
9:15 - 10:30 a.m.	3:1 Clinical Teaching Scenarios Practical Application
10:30 - 10:45 a.m.	Break

10:45 - 12:00 p.m.	3.2 It's All in the Approach: Equal Access to Dental Education
12:00 - 12:45 p.m.	Lunch
12:45 - 2:00 p.m.	3.3 Integration of Professional and Empathic Patient Communication
2:00 - 2:15 p.m.	Break
2:15 - 3:15 p.m.	3.4 Integrating Clinical Case-based Scenarios in Course Curriculum (Grouped by Dental Area/ Program / Specialty)
3:15 – 4:45 pm	Micro-project Sessions (Part II)
4:45 - 5:00 p.m.	Evaluation / Q&A Adjourn Dinner on Your Own

Saturday, August 1 (Day 4): Integrating Approaches to Enhance Learning Environment

Participants are invited to look forward to emerging technologies, interpersonal competencies, and adaptive strategies that will define the next generation in dental education. Day 4 brings the program full circle with participants synthesizing their learning, identifying personal and institutional action steps, and committing to the deliberate, adaptive practices necessary to sustain long-term growth.

Eastern Time

8:30 - 9:15 a.m.	Breakfast & Networking Conversations
9:15 - 9:30 a.m.	Collaborative Learning: Reflection & Assessment
9:30 - 10:45 a.m.	4.1 Mastering Difficult Conversations with Students: Strategies for Positive Outcomes
10:45 - 11:00 a.m.	Break
11:00 - 12:15 p.m.	4.2 Conflict Management for Dental Educators: Tools for Communication, Clarity, and Resolution
12:15 - 1:00 p.m.	Lunch
1:00 - 1:45 p.m.	4.3 What's Next? Deliberate, Adaptive & Resilient Actions
1:45 - 2:00 pm	Evaluation and Closing Remarks
2:00 p.m.	Adjourn (Do not depart before 2:00 pm)

2026 Institute for Teaching and Learning Speakers



Colin Haley, DDS, MEd, MHA is a Clinical Associate Professor and serves as the Executive Director of Curriculum and Student Success as well as the Associate Director of Group Facilitation at the University of Illinois Chicago College of Dentistry (UIC COD). In his administrative roles he oversees the development, implementation and evaluation of the pre-doctoral curriculum within UIC COD, as well as all student success initiatives. In addition to teaching at UIC COD, he practices dentistry and acts as a preceptor at Howard Brown Health in Chicago, an organization dedicated to eliminating disparities in health care experienced by members of the LGBTQ community.



Anita Joy-Thomas, BDS, PhD is professor and chair of the Department of Diagnostic and Biomedical Sciences at the School of Dentistry. She is also the Peggy A. O'Neill, PhD, DDS Distinguished Professor for Biomedical Sciences at the school. She previously served as the interim chair in 2020. A clinician-scientist by training, Dr. Joy-Thomas actively mentors students and is a sought-after faculty mentor as well. She is invested in faculty success and faculty development initiatives through her roles at the school and nationally. She has been recognized for numerous leadership and teaching awards and honors at regional, national and international levels. In recognition of her professional excellence, integrity, leadership, and continued service to her profession and people, she has been inducted into the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi and the

National Dental Honor Society Omicron Kappa Upsilon. She is also internationally recognized as a Fellow of the Royal Society for Public Health and a Fellow of the Faculty of Dental Trainers, Royal College of Surgeons Edinburgh.



Isabel Rambob, DDS, FICD, FACD is a Clinical Associate Professor and serves as the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs at The University of Oklahoma Health Science Center (OUHSC) College of Dentistry. Dr. Rambob is the Immediate Past President of the American Association of Women Dentists. She is an academic leader and strategist dedicated to advancing professional growth, leadership, and purpose-driven careers. She brings a blend of institutional leadership, organizational governance, and mentorship experience to every role she holds. Through workshops, keynote presentations, and coaching, she guides healthcare professionals and beyond to build confidence, strengthen professional presence, and navigate career transitions with intention. Driven by the belief that careers are more than job titles, Dr. Rambob strives to inspire others to

design pathways that reflect their values, vision, and potential.



Jayne S. Reuben, PhD, FAAPE, FASPET is an Instructional Professor in Biomedical Sciences and Medical Education at the Texas A&M College of Dentistry (Texas A&M Dentistry) where she works to develop educational research opportunities for students and faculty. Dr. Reuben previously served as a founding faculty member at the University of South Carolina School of Medicine. Skilled in pharmacology education, faculty development, the scholarship of teaching and learning, and educational assessment, she directs all of Texas A&M Dentistry's undergraduate and graduate pharmacology courses and serves on the Faculty Development, Promotion and Tenure, Admissions and Curriculum committees. She received her Ph.D. in

Pharmaceutical Sciences with a Specialization in Pharmacology and Toxicology from Florida A&M University. As an experienced Medical and Dental Educator, Dr. Reuben has demonstrated success in preparing students for entry into STEM fields and enhancing student performance on standardized tests.



Kelton T. Stewart, DDS, MS is a James J. Baldwin Endowed Professor, the Assistant Dean for Faculty Development, and the Chair of the Department of Orthodontics at the Indiana University School of Dentistry (IUSD). In this capacity, he facilitates the day-to-day and strategic operations within the Department and coordinates the professional development opportunities for the department's faculty and staff. During his career, Dr. Stewart has facilitated numerous predoctoral and graduate orthodontic courses at IUSD. Nationally, he has served as a member of the National Board Dental Examination (NBDE) Part II and Integrated NBDE test construction committees and has been a Commission on Dental Accreditation site visitor since 2017. Dr. Stewart is

a dedicated and compassionate orthodontic clinician/educator seeking to transform the current and future milieu of his communities through a spirit of persistence, innovation, and humble service. His general goals include the development and expansion of professional opportunities for individuals from every walk of life and the enhancement of existing educational systems to ensure the development of intelligent and capable future professionals.