



August 2020

Dear Fellow Tufts Dental Alumni,

I hope that you and your families are all doing well during this challenging time. The COVID-19 pandemic has created many difficulties for all of us and it is more important than ever to remember that we are all part of one big amazing Tufts family. We are all in this together. If you need anything, please reach out to your Tufts family and we will be there for you.

It is truly an honor and privilege to be President of the Tufts University Dental Alumni Association (TUDAA) and represent our vast and talented Tufts Dental alumni community. I am so incredibly proud to be a Tufts Dental alumna. I vividly remember the exciting first day I visited our school, the world-renowned Tufts University School of Dental Medicine (TUSDM). It was back in 1992 and I was with my father, Frank D. Kasparian, D61. It was my sincere hope that I might be accepted into the Class of 1997. That hope became a reality and, like my father, I feel incredibly fortunate to have received such an extraordinary education at TUSDM. That education provided both of us with rewarding and fulfilling professional careers. I know that you must be incredibly grateful for that education as well.

All Tufts Dental alumni are automatically members of TUDAA and there are no dues required for membership. The mission of TUDAA is to support and connect with both Tufts Dental alumni and students as well as providing much needed financial aid for our students. When we fundraise and ask for contributions, it is for the purpose of supporting the TUSDM Student Loan Fund, an essential resource for hundreds of students and bringing our alumni and students together at various events that we all know and love such as Tufts Dental Reunion Weekend, Tufts Wide Open Golf and Tennis Tournament, Tufts Dental Alumni Reception at Yankee Dental Congress and TUDAA Student Alumni Networking Night.

When COVID-19 caused our usual in person TUSDM alumni and student events, such as Reunion Weekend and Commencement to be cancelled, the TUDAA Board and I had to pivot and find new and creative ways for the TUDAA community to come together. We came up with the idea of hosting a series of four TUDAA Zoom Webinars to allow us to connect with our fellow Tufts Dental Alumni from all over the world and provide valuable information for our professional lives and practices. The webinars were so well received by the Tufts Dental community that we plan on continuing the TUDAA Zoom Webinars in the fall.

We cannot do any of this work without your help. I am asking for you to support TUDAA with a suggested contribution of \$125. However, a contribution in any amount, especially given the difficult year we have all had, would be greatly valued and appreciated. Each contribution is 100 % tax deductible and will renew your involvement with TUDAA through June 30, 2021.

Thank you so much for helping TUDAA support TUSDM Financial Aid and alumni and student events! We greatly appreciate your generosity! I hope to see you at a TUDAA event soon!

Please stay safe and healthy and remember we are #Jumbostrong!!!

Warmest regards,

Joy E. Kasparian-Federico, J92, D97, DGo1
President, Tufts University Dental Alumni Association (TUDAA)