

## Dr. Gerald Niznik College of Dentistry Research Day 2026

### Frederic Gaspard Theatre | January 29, 2026

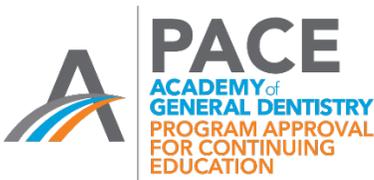
Time	Activity	
<b>8:00-8:30AM</b>	<b>Registration and Breakfast Poster Set Up</b>	
<b>8:30-9:00AM</b>	<b>Welcome Remarks</b>	<i>Mods: Prof. Kathy Yerex &amp; Dr. Ayesha Saleem</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 8:30-8:35</li> <li>- 8:35-8:40</li> <li>- 8:40-8:45</li> <li>- 8:45-8:50</li> <li>- 8:50-8:55</li> <li>- 8:55-9:00</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Welcome</li> <li>- Vice Dean Research</li> <li>- MMSF</li> <li>- CHRIM</li> <li>- CancerCare MB</li> <li>- Dean, Dentistry</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Prof. Kathy Yerex &amp; Dr. Ayesha Saleem</b></li> <li>- <b>Dr. Jude Uzonna</b></li> <li>- <b>Dr. Greg Hammond</b></li> <li>- <b>Dr. Andrew Halayko</b></li> <li>- <b>Dr. Kent Stobart</b></li> <li>- <b>Dr. Anastasia Kelekis-Cholakis</b></li> </ul>
<b>9:00-10:00AM</b>	<b>Session 1 – Pediatrics &amp; Dental-Clinical</b>	<i>Moderator: Professor Kathy Yerex</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 9:00-9:30</li> <li>- 9:30-10:00</li> </ul>	<p>EXTERNAL VISITING SPEAKER #1</p> <p>INTERNAL SPEAKER</p>	<p><i>Holistic Interventions to Tackle Early Childhood Caries and Promote Oral Health Equity</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Dr. Dorota Kopycka-Kedzierawski</b>, DDS, MPH, Professor of Dentistry, Eastman Institute for Oral Health (EIOH) in the Department of Dentistry, University of Rochester Medical Center; Director of EIOH Clinical and Translational Research Core; Node Director of the Northeast region of the National Dental Practice-Based Research Network.</li> </ul> <p><i>Public health approaches to improve access to oral health care and oral health status for young children in Canada</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Dr. Bob Schroth</b>, Professor, Departments of Preventive Dental Science and Pediatrics and Child Health, Rady Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Manitoba; Research Scientist at the Children’s Hospital Research Institute of Manitoba (CHRIM)</li> </ul>
<b>10:00-10:45AM</b>	<b>Break Posters and Networking</b>	
<b>10:45AM-12:00PM</b>	<b>Session 2 – Cancer &amp; Oral Biology</b>	<i>Moderator: Dr. Ayesha Saleem</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 10:45-11:15</li> </ul>	<p>EXTERNAL VISITING SPEAKER #2</p>	<p><i>Transcriptomic Correlates of Immune Evasion in Head and Neck Cancer</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Dr. Pinaki Bose</b>, Associate Professor, Departments of Oncology, Biochemistry &amp;</li> </ul>

<p>- 11:15-12:00</p>	<p>FLASH TALKS (RESIDENTS, GRADUATE STUDENTS, BSC DENT STUDENTS)</p>	<p>Molecular Biology, and Pathology &amp; Laboratory Medicine, University of Calgary; Scientific Lead, Precision Oncology and Experimental Therapeutics (POET) program, Cumming School of Medicine and the Arnie Charbonneau Cancer Institute; Director of Tumour Biology and Translational Research for the Ohlson Research Initiative (ORI), and Scientific Lead for the Calgary Global Medical Education (CGME) program</p> <p><i>Comparison of Intra-articular Injection of PRGF and Corticosteroid When Used as an Adjunct to Temporomandibular Joint Arthrocentesis: A Blinded Randomized Control Trial</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Dr. Derek Oryniak</b>, OMFS Resident</li> </ul> <p><i>Differential Responses to Wnt Signaling Modulation During Tooth Development in Surface and Cave Morphs of <i>Astyanax mexicanus</i></i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Nafees Zahra Rizvi</b>, OB PhD student</li> </ul> <p><i>Functional Role of Bitter Taste Receptor T2R14 in Oral Cancer Cells: Association with Calcium Signaling and Autophagy</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Manikanta Kella</b>, OB PhD student</li> </ul> <p><i>Dental Treatment Among CDCP Patients at a Canadian Dental University Clinic</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Malea Penner</b>, BSc(Dent) student</li> </ul> <p><i>Utilization of Silver Diamine Fluoride by Dentists in Adult Patients in Canada: a Review of the Non-Insured Health Benefits Dental Claims Database</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Muhammad Abdullah</b>, BSc(Dent) student</li> </ul> <p><i>Association between periodontitis and obstructive sleep apnea</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Dr. Suraya Dhalla</b>, Periodontics Resident</li> </ul>
<p>12:00-12:05PM</p>	<p><b>Awards and Closing Remarks</b></p>	<p><i>Moderator: Dr. Prashen Chelikani</i></p> <p>Cash awards for flash talks sponsored by Manitoba Dental Association (MDA). Awards presented by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Mr. Rafi Mohamed</b>, CEO and Secretary-Treasurer</li> <li>- <b>Mr. Greg Guenther</b>, Director of Member Services and Public Events</li> </ul>
<p>12:05-1:00PM</p>	<p><b>Lunch and Posters</b></p>	

**Registration for accreditation via CPD & AGD PACE**

Please use the QR code or link below to register for accreditation via CPD & AGD PACE. Attendance certificates and course evaluations will be distributed by the CPD office after the event.

[Dr. Gerald Niznik College of Dentistry Research Day 2026 - January 29, 2026 – Fill out form](#)



Rady Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Manitoba, Dr. Gerald Niznik College of Dentistry nationally approved PACE Program provider for FAGD/MAGD credit. Approval does not imply acceptance by any regulatory authority of AGD endorsement. The current term of approval extends from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2026. Provider ID# 214210.

Thank you to our funding partners for the Dr. Gerald Niznik College of Dentistry Research Day 2026:

