2019 AAPHD Student Merit Awards Program

**Dental Hygiene Student Merit Award for Outstanding Achievement in Community Dentistry**
First Place: Colleen R. Freund  
Title: Retrospective Study of Opioid Prescription Trends in a Dental School Clinic Using Electronic Health Record Data, 2012-2017  
School: School of Dentistry, University of Michigan  
Nominator: Professor Jennifer Cullen

Second Place: Christian Waterman, Brittany Badders, and Mackenzie Blackwell  
Title: Improving Caregiver Dental Hygiene Knowledge in a Long-Term Care Facility for Residents with Irreversible Physical Disabilities  
School: School of Dentistry, Virginia Commonwealth University  
Nominator: Dr. Patricia Bonwell

Third Place: Tuongvi Tran, Alexandra Manson, and Erin Lewis  
Title: Community Service Project: Petersburg Home for the Ladies  
School: School of Dentistry, Virginia Commonwealth University  
Nominator: Dr. Patricia Bonwell

**Leverett Graduate Student Merit Award for Outstanding Achievement in Dental Public Health**
First Place: Jevae L. Nelson, DDS  
Title: National and State Specific Prevalence Estimates of Past Year Dental Visits Among Children aged 1-17 years, United States, NHANES, 2016  
School: Harvard School of Dental Medicine  
Nominator: Dr. Mary Tavares

Second Place: Matthew M. Oishi, DMD, MS  
Title: A National Study of Dental Care Delivery, Focus, and Utilization of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE)  
School: College of Dentistry, University of Iowa  
Nominator: Dr. Leonardo Marchini

Third Place: Muath Aldosari, BDS, MPH  
Title: Oral Cancer Screening Practices and Smoking Cessation Counseling Among Dentists in the United States, NHANES, 2016  
School: Harvard School of Dental Medicine  
Nominator: Dr. Mary Tavares

*Honorable Mention by Student* (in alphabetical order by last name):  
Nyla Balakrishnan, BDS, MPH, MS  
Title: Legally Authorized Representatives’ Awareness of Oral Health Needs of Long Term Care Facility Residents
Elías Moisés Morón, DDS
Title: Hospital Inpatient Admission for Non-traumatic Dental Conditions Among Florida Adults, 2006-2016
School: NYU Langone Health
Nominator: Dr. Scott Tomar

Sarah Shoffstall-Cone, DDS, MPH
Title: Dental Outcomes of Having an Established DHAT in Rural Alaska Communities
School: School of Dentistry, University of Texas Health Science Center, San Antonio
Nominator: Dr. David Cappelli

**Predoctoral Dental Student Merit Award for Outstanding Achievement in Community Dentistry**
First Place: Alisha-Jimenez Thompson
Title: Incorporating Dental Case Management into Medical Case Management for People Living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA)
School: School of Dental Medicine, Case Western Reserve University
Nominator: Dr. Kristin Williams

Second Place: Rachael Vernon
Title: Victors for Veterans: Expanding Access to Oral Health Care for Lansing, Michigan Underserved Veterans through a Nationally Reproducible Model
School: School of Dentistry, University of Michigan
Nominator: Howard A. Hamerink

Third Place: Tzi-Cha Wang, Jamie Mojica, and Vaidehi Shah
Title: Oral Health Surveillance System and School Nurses’ Competency in Identifying Dental Conditions/Diseases and Performing Appropriate Dental Referrals
School: Maurice H Kornberg School of Dentistry, Temple University
Nominator: Dr. Vinodh Bhoopathi & Dr. Marisol Tellez-Merchan

**Honorable Mention by Student** (in alphabetical order by last name):
Lee Rodems
Title: Community Health Needs Assessments and Oral Health in Pennsylvania
School: School of Dental Medicine, University of Pittsburgh
Nominator: Dr. Deborah Polk

Jodie Smith
Title: The Effects of Racial and Socioeconomic Infrastructure on Health Professional Shortage Area Rankings
School: School of Dental Medicine, Case Western Reserve University
Nominator: Dr. Kristin Williams