Research plays a prominent role in the School of Dentistry. The Interdisciplinary Ph.D. program, M.S. degree programs (Oral & Craniofacial Sciences and Dental Hygiene Education) as well as the advanced dental programs all have strong research components. The intent of these programs is to expose the student to basic and translational research, and clinical application. Research and the scientific method are formal parts of the educational program of all dental school students, contributing to their education, as well as serving to advance science and dentistry. There is significant external grant funding supporting the research efforts. Many of the researchers who have obtained these grants serve as mentors for dental students participating in the Summer Scholars Program. In this selective program, a limited number of students participate in a nine-week research experience in the mentor’s area of research interest and present their project results at a national meeting.