Update from UNLV School of Dental Medicine

Acting Dean Shawn Gerstenberger

Board of Regents
Health Sciences System Committee Meeting
November 20, 2026



Mobile Unit Operations

Rural Health Transformation Grant secured:

$1.37 million

To aid in operations for the mobile unit to serve our Rural Communities of Nevada.

Nevada State Board of Dental Examiners

APPROVED

our Mobile Unit operations as a Public Health Program

1st deployment schedule for **January 2027.**

UNLV | SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE

Meet the DMD Class of 2030

79 future dentists began their journey at Nevada's only accredited dental school this fall.

79
students selected from 2,230 applications

+41.4%
growth in DMD applications from 2022–23 to 2025–26

WHO THEY ARE

52%	63%	22	20–37	100%
Nevada residents	Female: all-time high	Languages spoken	Age range	Hold a 4-year degree or higher

ACADEMIC PROFILE · ALL-TIME HIGHS

3.76	3.69
Cumulative GPA	Science GPA

We also have 5 advanced ed programs for residents:

- General Practice Residency
- Orthodontics
- Dental Anesthesia
- Pediatrics
- Dental Public Health

UNLV | SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE

Pediatric Dentistry Program Highlights

100%
of 2025 graduates passed the ABPD Qualifying Exam

+10 pts
Program mean above the national average

24 → 6
Applicants interviewing Nov 2–3 for 6 positions

Healthy Together

New affiliation with this Clark County initiative and its mobile clinic outreach events

Outreach Events

Give Kids A Smile, Pack the Mack and the Saturday Children's Clinic

LVMPD Kids Day

Coming soon, Metro Police will bring 50–100 children to UNLV SDM for free dental care

UNLV | SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE

Saturday Clinics in Full Force

Weekend access is expanding care for patients who cannot afford dentistry on their own.

Saturday Smiles **is back and operational.**
Students, faculty and staff work together one Saturday a month to delivery dentistry to those in need.

- More patients have been seen who can't afford the dental care and/or limited access to care
- More hands-on student experience with kids and veterans thanks to donor funding
- Treatment rendered to the uninsured and those who make below $30k / year

>100 Patients Served since July

4 Saturday Clinic offerings, about one per month

UNLV | SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE

Out in the Community

Recent outreach events bring SDM care, dental education, and awareness to Las Vegas communities.

Pack the Mack

SDM students, faculty and staff showed up in full force to support the Las Vegas Metro Pack the Mack event. We offered dental screenings, dental education and care referrals to attendees.

Over 300 dental screenings completed!

Central Church

Partnered with Central Church to bring dental education and care referrals to the congregation and neighbors during their school backpack event.

LVMPD Trunk or Treat

A Halloween hit with candy-smart tips, smiles and toothbrushes for local kids and families.

Between the 3 events,
we gave out over **3000** pediatric
dental hygiene kits

UNLV | SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE

HRSA Oral Health Workforce Grant

Six new programs expanding Nevada's oral health workforce: 5-year award, 9/1/26 – 8/31/31

$1.8M
Total to Nevada via NVHA

$870K
UNLV SDM subaward

Revised budget submitted Oct 2026

1 DPH Leadership & HPSA Deployment
Statewide

2 Oropharyngeal Cancer Prevention Training
Statewide

3 Point-of-Care HPV Prevention Workflow
Clark County & rural NV in Years 3–4

4 In-School Oral Health STEM Pathway
Clark & Washoe & statewide via AHEC

5 Statewide IDD Oral Health Surveillance
Statewide

6 PHEDH Rural Pathway
Statewide

NVHA Nevada Health Authority **DPH** Dental Public Health **HPSA** Health Professional Shortage Area **PHEDH** Public Health Endorsed Dental Hygienist

UNLV | SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE

Continuing to Strengthen Financial Performance & Accountability

Aug – Nov 2026 New Director of Accounting: Alain Viaud

$90K

2026 invoices approved for payment

Anesthesia residency: 5+ months

$300K

Projected 2027 additional revenue

Anesthesia residency opportunity

Monthly

Faculty compensation reviewed for accuracy

Provider validation & controls

KEY FINANCIAL & OPERATIONAL PRIORITIES

Revenue Cycles

Strengthening accounts receivable aging analysis, collections, insurance reimbursement and payment posting

Performance Visibility

Developing dashboards for clinic utilization, patient visits, revenue and operating KPIs

Financial Controls

Enhancing FDP compensation review, reconciliations and credit balance oversight

Process Improvement

Standardizing grant-funded program accounting, reporting and cross-functional workflows

UNLV | SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE

NEW HIRE ACTIVITY

July 1 – October 31, 2026

Total Volume

69

JOB APPOINTMENTS in 4 months

JOB FAMILY GROUP	POSITIONS		% OF 69
Hourly (Student Workers)	48		69.6%
Letter of Appointments (Students/PTI/Clinical)	11		15.9%
Administrative Faculty	4	10 new full-time employees	5.8%
Academic Faculty	4		5.7%
Classified	2		2.9%
Total	**69**		**100.0%**

UNLV | SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE

Appointments by Position Title between July 1 – October 31

Total Volume

69

APPOINTMENTS

Reporting Period

July 1 – October 31

POSITION TITLE	COUNT
Student Employee, Level 2	45
Temporary Faculty - Teaching	10
Temporary, Safety	2
Temporary Faculty - Professional	1
Student Employee, Level 3	1
Assistant General Counsel	1
Manager/Supervisor, Accounting/Finance	1
Talent Acquisition and Compensation Coordinator	1
Visiting Assistant Professor Dental	1
Professor in Residence	1
Associate Professor in Residence	1
Director of Pediatrics	1
Assistant Professor-in-Residence (General Dentist)	1
Administrative Assistant 2	1
Administrative Assistant 3	1
TOTAL	**69**

UNLV | SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE

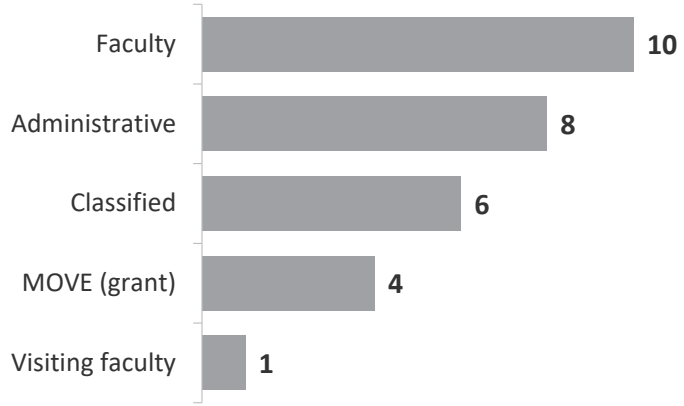
Recruitment Pipeline at a Glance

Weekly recruitment status for the Week of October 29, 2026

29

position slots in the recruitment pipeline

Work in progress



OFFERS & HIRES IN MOTION

- **Director of Pediatrics**
- **General Dentist faculty**
- **ER Coordinator**
- **Administrative Asst. 2**
- **Administrative Asst. 3**

UNLV | SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE

Recruiting Status by Area & Next Steps

Where each recruitment stands and what is needed to move it forward →

Faculty 10

Endodontics (2)

Pediatrics (2)

General Dentist (3) *1 hire in progress

Chair, Clinical Sciences

Asst. Dean, Clinical Services

Administrative 8

ER Coordinator

Compliance Officer

2 roles backfilled

- Dir. of Development
- Assoc. Dean of Research

Classified 6

AA2 & AA3

Dental Assistant 2 (3)

DA2 in GPR

MOVE Program 4

3 positions

All grant funded

Deployment Operator

UNLV | SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE

Thank you for your time!

Questions?

Shawn Gerstenberger, PhD
shawn.gerstenberger@unlv.edu

Acting Dean, UNLV SDM
Dean, UNLV School of Public Health

UNLV | SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE

This building is currently under construction. We will have a new lobby and auditorium in January!

