Launching a new graduate degree program- “Master of Oral Health Sciences (MOHS)”

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BACKGROUND & OBJECTIVES

- Dental School acceptance rates range between 2-11% in US
- In 2016, 15.2% of the applicants to dental school were from underrepresented backgrounds and 50.2% of those applicants were women
- The admission rates are even lower for non-US trained dentists applying to US dental schools
- PDM’s mission is to enhance opportunity and diversity
- Master of Oral Health Sciences (MOHS) goal is to provide educational opportunities to students with deficiencies in their applications to dental schools
- MOHS program was approved in June 2020 with two tracks for pre-dental students and non-US trained dentists
- Our goal was to launch the program, enroll students and provide financial support for qualified students

OUTCOMES

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<tr>
<th>Tasks</th>
<th>Outcomes</th>
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<tr>
<td>Program Launch December 2020</td>
<td>Accepted applications for 2 months</td>
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<td>Virtual Interviews April/May 2021</td>
<td>Interviewed 12 predental track and 2 Non-US trained dentist students</td>
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<td>Admission Decisions May 2021</td>
<td>Six students admitted to MOHS predental track</td>
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<td>Enrollment July 2021</td>
<td>Provided financial support for one student from underrepresented background</td>
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<td>Orientation &amp; Classes August 2021</td>
<td>No admissions to Non-US trained dentists track</td>
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<td>In-person orientation is scheduled during the week of August 9, 2021</td>
<td>The classes will start in August 16th, 2021</td>
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<td>A new program co-director onboard in July</td>
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TAKE AWAYS & NEXT STEPS

- Hiring of a graduate program coordinator (in process)
- New admissions cycle begins September 2021
- Step up marketing efforts
- Monitor student progress and adjust program content as needed

COLLABORATIONS

- Office of Provost
- Office of University Registrar
- Student Registration and Financial Services
- PDM Admissions Office
- PDM Development Office
- PDM Academic Affairs

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- Dean Mark Wolff for his continuous support and mentorship
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