


MEMORANDUM

To: Academic Deans, Faculty, and Staff  
From: C. L. Max Nikias   
Date: March 17, 2009  
Subject: Appointment of Professor Avishai Sadan as Dean of the USC School of Dentistry

Office of the Provost

C. L. Max Nikias  
Executive Vice President  
and Provost

Malcolm R. Currie Chair  
in Technology and  
the Humanities

On behalf of President Sample, I am pleased to announce the appointment of Professor **Avishai Sadan** as dean of the USC School of Dentistry. Professor Sadan will also hold the G. Donald and Marian James Montgomery Dean's Chair in Dentistry. He comes to USC from Case Western Reserve University, where he has distinguished himself as a successful administrator and inspiring leader. His appointment is effective August 1, 2009.

At Case Western Reserve University School of Dental Medicine, Dr. Sadan has served as associate dean of clinical affairs, as well as professor and chairman of the department of comprehensive care. During his tenure as chair, he has achieved a number of important successes. He merged the former departments of restorative dentistry and general dentistry. He has restructured all preclinical courses to align with contemporary restorative approaches, reorganized all clinical procedures, and streamlined all preclinical and clinical operations. In his role as chair, he also supervises all departmental research activities, the school's biomaterials laboratory, and the clinical trials in the D.M.D. clinics research. His record of achievements speaks to his strong leadership skills.

Among his responsibilities as associate dean of clinical affairs, he supervises the school's director of clinical operations and its director of quality assurance and patient services, as well as all patient care coordinators and their supervisors, and the in-house dental technology laboratory. He chairs the school's strategic plan committee and serves as its representative in university-wide discussions. He is also a member of the school's steering committee for accreditation.

Dr. Sadan is the former editor-in-chief of *Quintessence International* and of *Quintessence of Dental Technology (QDT)*. He has served on the editorial boards of other journals, and has published and lectured nationally and internationally on biomaterials, fixed prosthodontics, and esthetic and implant dentistry. His publication list is both extensive and impressive.

Dr. Sadan received his B.Sc. and D.M.D. degrees from Hebrew University's Hadassah School of Dental Medicine in Jerusalem, where he also completed an internship in maxillofacial prosthodontics and oral medicine. He received his training in prosthodontics from the Louisiana State University (LSU) School of Dentistry and has also completed a fellowship at LSU in prosthodontics, emphasizing esthetic and implant dentistry.

Dr. Sadan is a member of several professional organizations, including the American College of Prosthodontists, the Academy of Osseointegration, the European Academy of Esthetic Dentistry, the American College of Dentists, Omicron Kappa Upsilon (OKU) National Dental Honor Society, and Pierre Fauchard Academy.

Upon arriving at USC, Dr. Sadan will find a top-notch School of Dentistry, one that plays a key role in the academic and cultural life of this university. The school prepares oral health professionals in its doctoral dental, dental hygiene, general practice residency, and eight advanced specialty education programs. The school is also a leader in problem-based learning pedagogy, and is a major recipient of federally-sponsored biomedical research funds, ranking among the elite of all dental schools. Furthermore, tens of thousands of people have received healthcare through the school's dental clinics, mobile clinic, and community-based health programs. In many ways, the School of Dentistry reflects the vibrant mix of scholarship, professional training, and important community work that characterizes USC.

Before closing, I want to thank Professor **Sigmund H. Abelson** for serving as acting dean of the School of Dentistry and for continuing in that role until Dr. Sadan joins USC. Since last November, Dr. Abelson has provided outstanding leadership during this transition period, and we are all truly grateful for his exceptional service. Also, once again, I would like to acknowledge Professor **Harold C. Slavkin** for his many years of service as dean. He became dean of the school in 2000, and the entire university has benefitted greatly from his numerous contributions to both the Dental School and USC.

I would also like to acknowledge the stellar work of the dean search advisory committee. Dean **R. Pete Vanderveen** of the USC School of Pharmacy chaired the committee, and Professor **Elizabeth Garrett**, vice president for academic planning and budget, served as vice chair. The dean search advisory committee also included Professors **Ralph B. Allman, Yang Chai; Steven D. Goodman; Richard L. Kahn; Roseanne Mulligan; Pragna Patel; Eugene Sekiguchi; Malcolm L. Snead; and Carolee Winstein. Nora Haghparast**, president of the Dental Faculty Assembly, and **Anahita Taraporewalla**, president of the Associated Student Body, advised us during the search.

Please join me in warmly congratulating Dr. Avishai Sadan on his appointment as dean of the USC School of Dentistry, and in welcoming him, his wife Anat, and their two children to the Trojan Family. We all look forward to their arrival this summer.

cc: Steven B. Sample  
Robert Abeles  
Todd R. Dickey  
Martha Harris  
Elizabeth Garrett  
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