



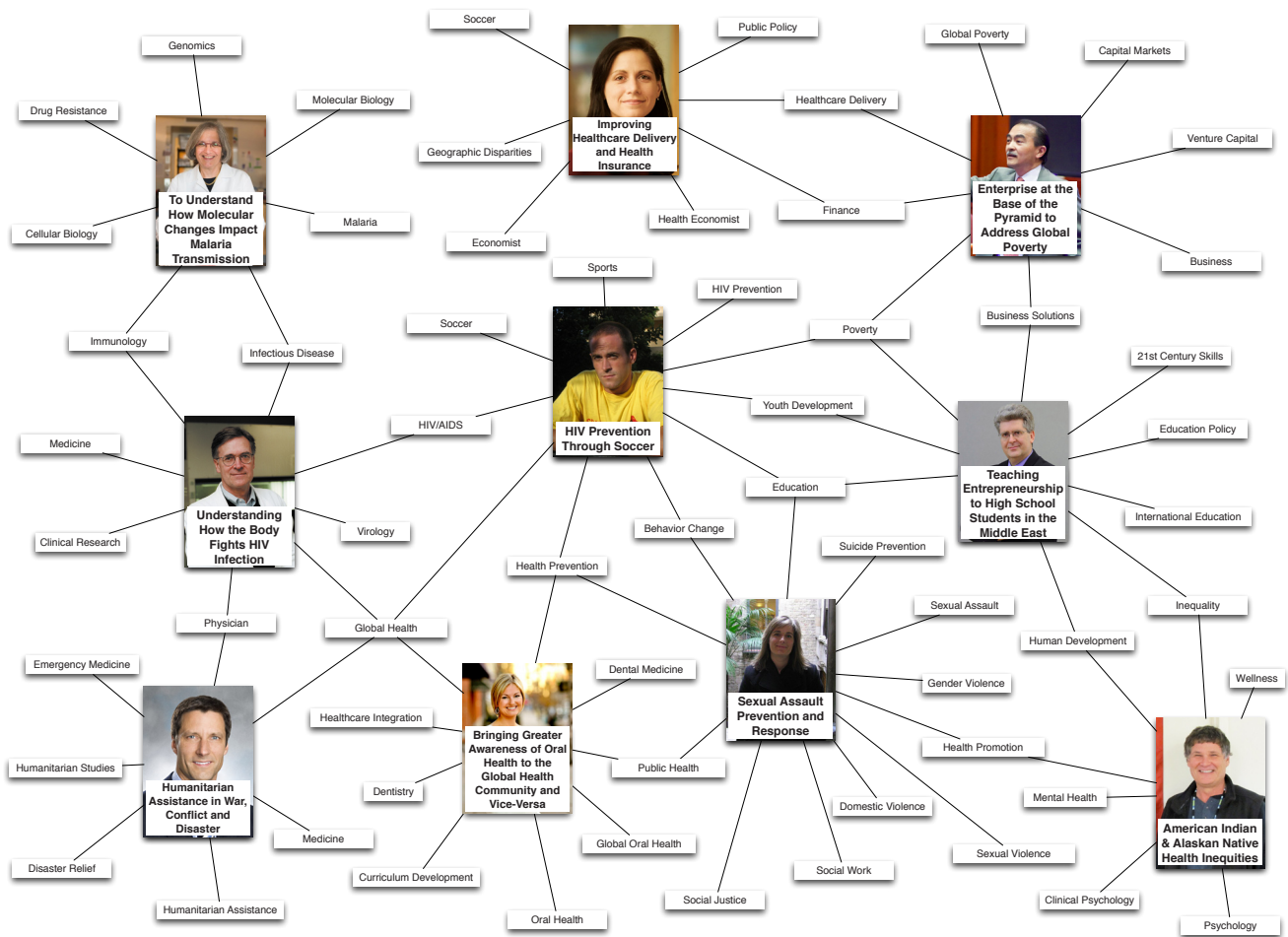
THE REALM OF --- POSSIBILITY

WHO IS HARVARD SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE?





HOW DO WE HELP PEOPLE TO UNDERSTAND
THE IMPORTANCE OF DENTAL EDUCATION?



ORAL HEALTH IS EVERYBODY'S BUSINESS

Organized dentistry in the United States has worked hard to narrowly define the profession as a fee-for-service enterprise that restores cavities, straightens teeth, and whitens smiles. As a result oral health is seen as an aesthetic luxury. The siloing of dentistry away from healthcare keeps students, philanthropists, and members of the public from understanding the importance of oral health, and of dental education more broadly.

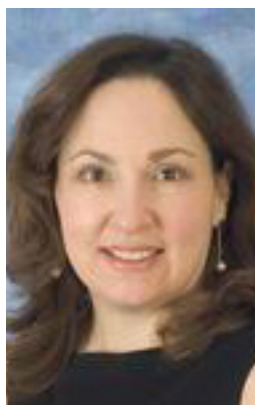
It is no mystery that dentists and dental specialists are some of the most highly compensated professionals in the country, including faculty and alumni of Harvard School of Dental Medicine. There is another way to highlight who we are, and why we need support. At The Realm of Possibility, we created a new paradigm to organize professionals which defines people not according to their discipline or professional affiliations, but according to the problems and challenges they work to address. This increases the granularity of the ways in which we define people, and offers opportunities to highlight how people come together across disciplines and professions to address important problems that confront us in the realm of oral health. We create digital story profiles that humanize professionals so that prospective students, funders, and members of the public understand the depth and breadth of our work.



"Oral Health is Everybody's Business." - Ralph Fuccillo, Dentaquest



TELLING OUR STORIES WILL HELP US TO
COMMUNICATE THE VALUE OF OUR WORK.



WHO IS HARVARD SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE?

At the Realm of Possibility, we use the principles of educational software design, computer science, social network analysis, online organizing principles, and educational publishing, to craft digital stories that 'tell the story behind the resume.' Instead of focusing on Harvard School of Dental Medicine as an institution, our web profiles tease out the humanity of professionals and distill their story into a multi-media narrative that may be understood by all.

Dimensions of a Possibility Profile

As seen in the graphic to the right, a possibility profile is divided into twelve components. The digital stories lead with a description of the problem or challenge the person is working to address. This is achieved through story so that even the most complex problem may be understood by a layperson. The next set of interview questions help people to understand



the skills that help this individual to succeed in their work as well as how to further explore their work.

Very few people have linear paths as they traverse their careers, which is captured in the professional pathways questions, the inspiration questions, and the questions on their daily work routine.

The remaining questions focus on ideas that rarely come up on polite conversation. How do they create value for their organization and for society? How and with whom do they collaborate to achieve this? What is their vision for the future? What principles do they embody to navigate their lives? The final two questions directly ask people to describe the value of their education and ask them to discuss what brings them happiness and joy. The possibility

profiles allow people to understand the things that make people tick, while underscoring how their work contributes to the greater good.

REALM OF POSSIBILITY PROFILE TYPES

EXAMPLE: [HTTP://THEREALMOFOFPOSSIBILITY.ORG/PROFILES/MICHAEL-VANROOYEN-HUMANITARIAN-ASSISTANCE/](http://therealmofofpossibility.org/profiles/michael-vanrooyen-humanitarian-assistance/)

The **Professional Pathways** profiles on The Realm of Possibility features established individuals across professions and disciplines to highlight the story behind their resume. They are categorized according to the problem or challenge they work to address.

The **Experience Exchange** profiles on feature the ways in which people gain early real-world experience. These profiles showcase people who have found solid internships, research positions, jobs, volunteer positions, as well as people who have launched their own entrepreneurial endeavours.



THE REALM OF POSSIBILITY

VIDEO

PILOT: HARVARD GLOBAL HEALTH INSTITUTE

PARTNERS



**Dr. Michael
VanRooyen**

works to bring accountability,
quality and efficiency to the
field of humanitarian assistance
to save lives.

Problem, Challenge, or Focus:

**Humanitarian
Assistance in War,
Conflict and Disaster**



[Listen to Michael VanRooyen's
Story](#)



**HARVARD
HUMANITARIAN
INITIATIVE**

Profession: Emergency Medicine Physician,
Professor

Job Title: Director of the Harvard Humanitarian
Initiative, Director of the Humanitarian Academy, Vice
Chairman of the Department of Emergency Medicine

Organization: Harvard Medical School, Harvard
School of Public Health, Brigham and Women's
Hospital

Song Credit: Six Piano Pieces, Op. 118, No. 1 in A
minor by Johannes Brahms played by Emanuel Ax

Possibility Fellow: Nora Eccles

Profile Made Possible By:



HARVARD

Global Health Institute

COMPONENTS OF A POSSIBILITY PROFILE

EXAMPLE: [HTTP://THEREALMOFOFPOSSIBILITY.ORG/PROFILES/MICHAEL-VANROOYEN-HUMANITARIAN-ASSISTANCE/](http://therealmofofpossibility.org/profiles/michael-vanrooyen-humanitarian-assistance/)

Audio Story Profile

This brief audio clip uses storytelling to highlight the importance of the problem or challenge they work to address through their career.

Professional Affiliations

Meta-data that categorize the interviewee are included on the possibility profile. This includes their job title, profession, and affiliation.

Interview Transcript

The entire interview is transcribed and edited for readability so that people can read the contents of the interview in full-text whenever they like.

Interview Podcast

The edited interview is cut into individual audio clips so that people who would like to hear the entire interview can do so at their leisure.

Click On The Questions Below To Read The Extended Profile

- ▶ Please describe who you are, where you are from, and your current role.
- ▶ What problem or challenge are you currently working to address?
- ▶ Please suggest media or resources that will help people explore this problem or challenge.
- ▶ Please describe the path that led you to where you are now.
- ▶ Give a sampling of the work you do on a day-to-day basis.
- ▶ What are the enjoyable parts of your work? What are the less enjoyable parts?
- ▶ What is a challenge that you have faced in your career? How did you deal with that challenge?
- ▶ What types of interests and activities do you maintain outside of your work?
- ▶ What advice do you have for people in their early stages of exploring?
- ▶ What is your vision for the problem or challenge you are working to address?

Click Play to Listen to Interview Audio Clips



Michael VanRooyen 7 - Please describe the path that led you to where you are now.



KEYVAN SOHRABI, DDS, MMSc
WHAT PROBLEM IS HE WORKING TO ADDRESS IN ORTHODONTICS?



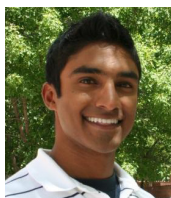
WHAT PROBLEMS & CHALLENGES ARE STUDENTS WORKING TO ADDRESS?

HSDM FIFTH-YEAR ENRICHMENT EXPERIENCES



Harvard School of Dental Medicine offers a unique opportunity for students to spend a 5th year in the DMD program exploring an intellectual interest in research, community health, global health, or beyond. The 5th-year option is not as well publicized today as in the past. Harrison Mackler, pictured to the left, spent his 5th year as a Howard Hughes Medical Institute Fellow where he investigated how to regenerate teeth de novo.

GLOBAL HEALTH & COMMUNITY PROJECTS



The opportunities for HSDM students to apply their education in global health and community health are unparalleled. Abraham Itty interned with the Pan-American Health Organization and got interested in NOMA, a rapidly progressive, polymicrobial, opportunistic infection that occurs during periods of compromised immune function. His project turned into a research project that helps communities understand and mitigate this devastating disease.

PROFESSIONAL INTERNSHIPS



Many HSDM students reinforce their classroom learning through professional internships in organizations that shape the field of dentistry and the healthcare industry more broadly. Adam Donnell, worked as an intern with the American Dental Education Association in their Center for Public Policy and Advocacy in Washington, D.C. He interacted with members of Congress, key federal agency officials, to build coalitions within the oral health community.

CLINICAL EXTERNSHIPS



The Office of Dental Education worked hard to create unique clinical externships for HSDM 4th year students. These opportunities give students the ability to see how dentistry is practiced in communities across the country and globally, while enhancing their clinical skills through strong mentorship. Many of these externships are financed by generous donors. Virginia Hogsett, pictured on the left did a 4th year externship in rural Alaska.

STUDENT RESEARCH & SCHOLARSHIP



HSDM is one of the only dental schools in the United States that require students be involved in research and scholarship. While some of the research is highly specialized, describing it through digital stories makes it more accessible to laypeople and to non-experts. While in the DMD program, Katia Mattos wrote an honors thesis on 'How Patients' Lack of Knowledge about Oral Bisphosphonates Can Interfere with Medical and Dental Care.'

INNOVATIONS IN ORAL HEALTH



The field of dental medicine is deeply in need of people who take risks to re-imagine the status-quo including the creation of new technologies and approaches to standing problems in oral health. During his Advanced Graduate Education Residency in Periodontology Dr. Samuel Lee came up with a new technology. His DMSc project focused on a new way to acquire intraoral x-rays with ultra-low doses and is working to commercialize his project.



BRITTANY SEYMOUR, DDS, MPH

WHAT PROBLEM IS SHE WORKING TO ADDRESS IN GLOBAL HEALTH?



WHAT PROBLEMS & CHALLENGES ARE FACULTY & ALUMNI WORKING TO SOLVE?

INTEGRATING ORAL HEALTH & GENERAL HEALTH



There are dental professionals who have decided to use their careers to more deeply integrate oral health and general health from a variety of disciplinary and professional perspectives. Jacqueline Burgette, an Alum of HSDM and started a clinic in Haiti while enrolled in the 5th-Year enrichment program. She is currently a Pediatric Dentistry residency and a concurrent Health Policy and Management PhD and works to re-imagine oral health in the USA and globally.

GLOBAL & COMMUNITY HEALTH INITIATIVES



Oral Health is Global Health. Oral Health is Public Health. Since HSDM made a commitment to global and community health, HSDM students and faculty alike have made strides in this arena and have fostered unique global health programs that make an impact. Sam Merabi is an Instructor in the department of Oral Health Policy and Epidemiology at Harvard School of Dental Medicine. He facilitated global health projects in Malawi and in Belize.

NON-TRADITIONAL PROFESSIONAL PATHWAYS



Dr. Bruce Donoff frequently cites that, "we prepare students to work in careers that do not yet exist." This approach requires an openness to career pathways that are off of the well-worn path. Hyewon Lee is an Alumni of the DMD program and carved out a unique role working for the Bureau of Primary Health Care in the Health Resources and Services Administration under the umbrella of the US Department of Health and Human Services.

ADVANCING SCIENCE



One of the core pillars of the Harvard School of Dental Medicine strategic plan is Research. As part of a research university, the school trains its students to investigate scientific hypotheses using the scientific method from a variety of disciplines. Chris Fox is an alum of the HSDM Periodontology Certificate program. He is currently the director of the International Association of Dental Research, which shapes oral health scholarship across the globe.

TAKING THE LEAD



One of the advantages of Harvard School of Dental Medicine is the access to the all 12 Harvard Schools and MIT. DMD and post-docs are free to take advantage courses and dual-degree programs that are centered in other disciplines. Many students leverage these opportunities to create new educational and professional opportunities. Joshua Turnbull, a DMD student also received an MBA from Harvard Business School and went on to start Lydian Dental.

TEACHING THE NEXT GENERATION



Teaching faculty are the backbone of dental schools. They interface with students and they are responsible for mentoring students to become competent oral health professionals. Romesh Nalliah is a Clinical Instructor in Biomaterials and Restorative Dentistry at HSDM and works as fellow at the Harvard Medical School Academy for Medical Education where he is investigating Educational Outcomes of Interprofessional Practice.



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