

Second Quarter 2026 ATSRI Newsletter



The mission of A.T. Still Research Institute is to advance compassionate whole person healthcare and wellbeing through unwavering support of premier clinical and translational research and other scholarly work.



Elevate Your Research Journey with ATSRI

ATSRI is committed to advancing compassionate, whole-person healthcare through premier clinical and translational research. Become a member to unlock invaluable benefits for your professional growth.

Why Join ATSRI?

- **Enhance Your Credentials:** Add an official ATSRI membership to your CV.
- **Expand Your Network:** Connect with a diverse community of scholars and professionals.
- **Showcase Your Work:** Gain visibility via ATSRI's website, social media, and digital boards.
- **Engage in Learning:** Participate in journal clubs, Research Nexus events, and more.

Find Your Membership Level:

Level	Best For
 Associate Scientist	All ATSU staff/students new to research and eager to learn (no prior experience required).
 Community Scientist	External partners passionate about community-based research and advocacy for underserved populations.

ATSRI Scientist I

Internal ATSU professionals actively conducting research, publishing, and mentoring students.

ATSRI Scientist II

Experienced internal doctoral-level ATSU researchers dedicated to guiding faculty and leading scholarly projects.

Be part of a collaborative, innovative, and impactful research community at ATSU! We're compiling a list of individuals interested in joining ATSRI. If you'd like to become a member, please fill out [this form](#), and we'll be in touch with more details. Don't miss your chance to connect, learn and grow with a dynamic network of researchers and scholars!

ATSRI Centers - Center for Oral Health Research

The Center for Oral Health Research (COHR) was well-represented by member presentations at the International Association for Dental Research annual meeting in San Diego, from March 25-28, 2026.



COHR members also presented their original research at several other key conferences this spring, including the American Dental Education Association annual meeting in Montreal, Quebec, Canada (March); the Special Care Dentistry Association annual meeting in Dallas (April); the American Association of Endodontists annual meeting in Salt Lake City (April); the American Association of Orthodontists in Orlando (May); and the American Academy of Developmental Medicine & Dentistry in Dallas (June).

Ann Spolarich, RDH, PhD, FSCDH, was elected President of the Arizona Section of the American Association for Dental, Oral and Craniofacial Research. Her term began March 26, 2026, and will run through March 18, 2027. Dr. Spolarich also completed the first year of her three-year term as

Councilor for the Oral Health Research Group of the International Association for Dental Research.

Dr. Spolarich, Adriana Silva, DMD, MPH, PhD, and Seena Patel, DMD, MPH are pleased to announce the establishment of the ATSU SalivaEpi Biobank within the Center for Oral Health Research (COHR). The biobank integrates clinical, epidemiologic, and genetic data to support translational investigations focused on oral health disparities and precision oral health. The inaugural study will examine the associations between self-reported race/ethnicity and oral cancer occurrence, and the relationships between genetic ancestry and oral cancer occurrence, while adjusting for environmental risk.



The OMM Research Podcast from DO-Touch.NET



In the fast-paced environments of academic medicine and clinical practice, staying abreast of the latest evidence-based literature is both a professional necessity and a scheduling challenge. To bridge this gap, DO-Touch.NET—in partnership with the A.T. Still Research Institute—presents The OMM Research Podcast, a dedicated audio resource designed to translate peer-reviewed osteopathic literature into accessible, practice-changing insights.

Each episode features experts analyzing recent data, methodology, and clinical applications within Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine (OMM). The podcast offers an efficient way for faculty, clinicians, students, and staff to engage in continuous professional development on their own schedule, turning daily commutes and routines into learning opportunities.

The latest three installments of the series highlight diverse clinical trials and global trends within the profession:

- [**Episode #9: Biopsychosocial Self-Management on Acute Back Pain & OMT on Chronic Neck Pain**](#)
An examination of patient-led self-management protocols for acute low back pain, alongside a critical review of clinical outcomes when utilizing OMT for chronic cervical spine dysfunction.
 - [**Episode #8: OMT on Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease & Functional Constipation**](#)
An analysis of the systemic impacts of manual treatment, specifically focusing on how addressing somatic dysfunction can influence patient outcomes in respiratory and gastrointestinal conditions.
-

- [Episode #7: Postoperative Knee Arthroplasty Efficacy & How Australians Practice OMT](#)

A dual-topic episode evaluating the data surrounding OMT's efficacy in post-surgical total knee replacement recovery, paired with an international perspective on the scope and practice of osteopathy in Australia.

The complete catalog of episodes, including show notes and references, is available via the central [Buzzsprout Repository](#). From this main landing page, listeners can easily subscribe through major streaming syndicates, including Apple Podcasts and Spotify, ensuring automatic updates as new research reviews are published.

Members of the institutional community are encouraged to engage with these episodes to support evidence-based education and further the conversation surrounding osteopathic clinical research.



Introducing the Summer 2026 CRDP Interns

We are pleased to announce the arrival of the Summer 2026 Clinician Researcher Development Program (CRDP) intern cohort. Over the next ten weeks, these individuals will collaborate closely with faculty mentors on dedicated research projects. This rigorous summer session will culminate in the presentation of their findings at the Interdisciplinary Biomedical Research Symposium (IBRS) in November 2026.

Please join us in welcoming this year's cohort:

- Pablo Andrade
- Gage Dudkowski
- Dagmawit Kebede
- Anna Nicol
- Hannah Rodriguez
- Kaiden Zaborowski

We look forward to the valuable insights this cohort will bring to our research endeavors, and we wish them the best as they prepare for the upcoming symposium. Please take the opportunity to welcome them to the team when you connect in upcoming meetings through our shared communication channels.

 SAVE THE DATE - 2026 Interdisciplinary Biomedical Research Symposium



18th annual Interdisciplinary Biomedical Research Symposium

From Spark to Solution: The Translational Journey

SAVE the DATE
Saturday, Nov. 7, 2026
Virtual and in-person conference

Conference site:
A.T. Still University
Kirksville, Missouri, campus
Interprofessional Education Building
500 W. Jefferson St.
Kirksville, MO 63501

Please visit atsu.edu/IBRS for more information.

ATSU | Interdisciplinary Biomedical
Research Symposium

 Become a Judge at the 18th Annual Interdisciplinary Biomedical Research Symposium

Are you passionate about advancing biomedical research and mentoring the next generation of scientists? We are officially seeking judges for the **18th Annual Interdisciplinary Biomedical Research Symposium (IBRS)** on **Saturday, November 7, 2026!**

Why Lend Your Expertise?

- **Connect:** Network with leading professionals across diverse biomedical fields.
- **Discover:** Gain a first look at cutting-edge research and innovative ideas.
- **Inspire:** Play a crucial role in evaluating and shaping the careers of emerging researchers.

Ready to make a difference? Join the [Interest List](#) and mark your calendar for November 7, 2026. The IBRS Planning Team will follow up with details soon!

 ATSRI Member News

ATSRI is pleased to share that a collaborative study mentored by Hesham Abdulkarim, BDS, MSD, DICOI, DABOI, ATSRI Research Scientist II, has been honored with a 2025 Top Citation

Acknowledgement from Wiley. The article—which merged a research project by Caroline Stark, D3, with an SLU Master’s thesis—ranked among the publisher’s top-cited works from 2024. We would also like to recognize the vital contributions of ATSRI biostatistician Mary Wang, PhD, whose partnership was essential to the success and high academic impact of this project.

Did you find this newsletter useful? We’d love to hear your thoughts and make it even better!



[Groundbreaking Findings!](#) – Engaging, insightful, and a must-read! 📖🔬



[Needs More Data!](#) – Some interesting points, but I just skimmed the data. 📄😞



[Inconclusive Results...](#) – Might need a stronger hypothesis next time. 😐📊

Contact Us

Are you interested in collaborating or starting your own research? Questions? We want to hear from YOU!

Contact us at atsri@atsu.edu

Follow us:   
