

**FACULTY:
Dentistry Constituency**

(ONE to be elected)

The following faculty members have been nominated for membership on Senate in the Dentistry Constituency for the July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2028 term.

1. **NIKOLOUDAKI, Georgia** – Assistant Professor
2. **SANTOS, Gildo** – Professor
3. **SULJAK, John** – Assistant Professor

Candidate statements are provided below.

NIKOLOUDAKI, Georgia

Assistant Professor

I am an Assistant Professor (tenure-track), and I am seeking election to Senate as the Dentistry representative because much of my academic work involves translating the realities of a clinical professional program into the broader university context where academic decisions are made. My responsibilities span teaching, clinical supervision, research, and service, and I am closely connected to the day-to-day functioning of our School. I work directly with students in didactic, preclinical, and clinical settings, supervise trainees at different stages, and lead an active research program that connects academic priorities with competitive funding environments and national expectations. I have also been involved in governance and regulatory work at both the school and national levels, shaping how I approach curriculum, assessment, and professional accountability. Dentistry operates within constraints that are often poorly understood outside professional programs, including clinical capacity, patient care obligations, accreditation standards, and regulatory requirements. I work within these constraints as part of my regular academic and clinical responsibilities and am accustomed to explaining their implications clearly in institutional discussions. As a Senator, I will bring an engaged, current, and grounded Dentistry perspective to the table while contributing constructively to the broader academic mission of Western.



SANTOS, Gildo***Professor***

I am seeking nomination to Western University's Senate to continue contributing to collegial governance and to support the university's academic mission with experience, integrity, and institutional knowledge. I am a tenured Full Professor at the Schulich School of Medicine and Dentistry with over three decades of academic, clinical, and leadership experience. I previously served two terms on Western's Senate, where I contributed to academic policy, curriculum oversight, and institutional decision making. At Schulich, I have held senior academic leadership roles including Associate Dean of Undergraduate Dental Education, Director of Clinics, Chair of Continuing Dental Education, and Chair of Restorative Dentistry. These roles involved curriculum development, program evaluation, accreditation readiness, and collaborative academic planning across disciplines. I am a recipient of the W.W. Wood Award for Excellence in Dental Education and completed leadership training through Western Continuing Studies, the ADEA Leadership Institute, the Western Leader Academy, and Ivey Business School. I have also served on national and international academic councils, bringing a broad perspective on higher education and professional training. I am committed to advancing academic excellence, inclusive decision making, and student success at Western, and I am willing to serve if elected.

SULJAK, John***Assistant Professor***

I spent six years as a Western undergraduate and then dental student (1995 DDS). I loved my time here and I always wanted to return to Western to give back. I had the opportunity to return when I joined as a part-time Adjunct Clinical Professor (2020) and then as a full-time Assistant Professor (since November 2023). I care a lot about Western, its reputation, and the quality of its graduates as they are a direct reflection of the University. To be frank, I care so much about this place that I drive 200km round trip 3-4 times a week from where I live to be able to support my School and train the best dentists in Ontario. I feel I have made significant contributions to the School of Dentistry through my didactic and clinical teaching over the years. Outside of the School, I am still in part-time clinical practice, have a role at the RCDSO performing regulatory duties, and have held various service positions in national and provincial dental organizations, including roles as President. I would like to extend my contribution to the School of Dentistry by representing it at the Senate level.

