

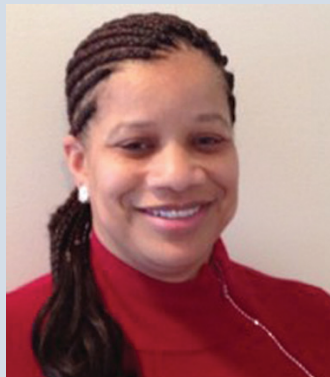


SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD

Sara Y. Fields, Director of Alumni Relations

In 2001, **Sara Fields** joined the staff of the School of Dental Medicine as the manager of development and alumni operations. Six years later, she was promoted to assistant director of alumni relations and in 2012 was named director of alumni relations. With focus and dedication to each position, her 18-year tenure has provided the continuity that is the foundation of the school's robust alumni engagement.

"Sara has been a rock for 18 years—all of the work she puts into reunion weekends, alumni events, receptions at various dental meetings, and the School of Dental Medicine Alumni Association is amazing," notes Mario Pavicic, DDS '92 in his nomination letter.



After receiving a BA from Baldwin-Wallace University, Sara held several positions that prepared her for her current role, including a long association with the Northcoast Marketing Group that honed her event planning skills. In her capacity as director, she is responsible for providing leadership for the alumni engagement team and implementing programs that not only engage alumni but inspire them. During the school's recent 125th anniversary, Sara directed the milestone celebration that was an enormous success—she also traveled across the country hosting more than 20 alumni groups to include them in the historic event.

In addition to bringing alumni together, Sara provides meaningful opportunities for volunteering and professional development. She is also responsible for the communication efforts, including the twice-yearly magazine and department newsletters.

Upon completing two terms as president of the Alumni Association this spring, Donald P. Lewis, DDS '76, '80, acknowledged Sara in his farewell message as "the heart and engine" of the association. He noted that she brought both a generous spirit and a great deal of hard work to

their combined efforts.

In addition to receiving the Special Recognition Award, Sara was the recipient of CWRU's prestigious Newton D. Baker Distinguished Service Award. The award recognizes significant service to the university and is presented by the Alumni Association of Case Western Reserve University.

Apart from dental school, Sara is active with Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. and is on the board of The Singing Angels and Warrensville Road Community Based Center of Life.

The homecoming celebration was extra special for Sara, as her daughter, Dominique, was crowned Homecoming Queen at Capital University in Columbus, OH earlier that afternoon. ■