The History of the Fuller Award
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The first Dentist Advisory Board to the University of Alabama School of Dentistry included Dr. Fuller

The Dentists Advisory Board to the University of Alabama School of Dentistry was created by the legislation that established the School of Dentistry in 1945. Governor Chauncy Sparks did not appoint the first Board until November 1946 and funds to operate the school were not appropriated until 1947. The first Dentists Advisory Board was composed of Dr. Moren H. Fuller (Centerville), Dr Olin Kirkland (Montgomery), Dr. C. B. Bray (Birmingham), Dr. John H. Sullivan (Mobile) and Dr. Richard R. Moorer (Eufaula). Dr. Fuller was appointed chairman by Governor Sparks.

Dr. Fuller was not well known by his Alabama colleagues and he was completely unknown in dental academia. He never held an ALDA office, but he was highly respected by his community. Governor Sparks figured competent academicians could be hired, but respected Alabama dentists knew what was best for our citizens.

Dr Kirkland was the best-known Alabama dentist before the dental school was established. His peers had voted him “The Alabama Dentist of the First half of the 20th Century” in 1950.

Dr. John Sullivan’s brother, Joseph C. Sullivan, Jr., J.D., introduced the bill in the Alabama House of Representatives that created the School of Dentistry. Another brother, Dr. George J. Sullivan, was a Mobile dentist, as was their father, Dr. Joseph Charles Sullivan, Sr. (Philadelphia Dental College, 1891). Dr. Richard R. Moorer was Governor Sparks’ personal dentist, which certainly justified his appointment.

Dr. Fuller spent a lot of time at the school during its early years and Dean Volker treated him with proper respect. The first students were thankful for the school because many of them were World War II veterans with impeccable credentials (or tickets, as Joe Volker called them) to enter dental school, but they had been unable to find a spot in out-of-state universities. They came to believe that Dr. Fuller was their personal benefactor, so the young Dental Alumni Association chose to honor Dr. Fuller and to make the award his namesake.

H. Moren Fuller Award Recipients

1955  Dr. H. Moren Fuller  
1956  Dr. Charles W. Lokey, Sr.  
1957  Dr. Edward G. Rhoads  
1958  Dr. Hunter S. Allen  
1959  Dr. Claude C. Cannon  
1960  Dr. William A. Wood  
1963  Dr. Joseph A. Volker  
1964  Dr. William L. McCarty, Sr.  
1965  Dr. William L. McCracken  
1966  Dr. Newton E. Allen  
1967  Dr. David D. Bloom  
1968  Dr. J. Luther Hughes  
1969  Dr. Charles A. McCallum, Jr.  
1970  Dr. George W. Matthews, Sr.  
1971  Dr. Sidney B. Finn  
1972  Dr. Leonard H. Robinson  
1973  Dr. Paul E. Hammons  
1974  Dr. Edwin M. Speed  
1975  Dr. Paul R. Huffstutler  
1976  Dr. Joseph C. Stewart  
1977  Dr. John H. Mosteller  
1978  Dr. William M. Lawson  
1979  Dr. Morris W. Hollis  
1982  Dr. Polly Ayers
1983  Dr. William D. Powell, Jr.
1985  Dr. Marvin L. Barron
1986  Dr. Roy R. Kracke
1987  Dr. David F. Greer
1989  Dr. Roy G. Cowan, Sr.
1990  Dr. Morgan A. Tunstall
1994  Dr. Mario G. Martinez, Jr.
1998  Dr. Charles Ray Graham
2000  Dr. Mary Lynne Capilouto
2001  Dr. Chalmus W. Strickland
2002  Mr. Wayne McMahan
2003  Dr. Thomas W. Weatherford, III
2004  Dr. Thomas W. Jones
2005  Dr. Charles W. Lokey, Jr.
2006  Dr. Zack Studstill
2007  Dr. Hiram Johnson
2012  Dr. George Lewis “Lew” Mitchell, Jr.
2013  Dr. Joel P. Hearn
2014  Dr. Milton Essig
2015  Dr. James Calvin McCulloh
2016  Dr. Benjamin J. Cumbus
2017  Dr. Alvin “Red” Stevens
2018  Dr. Micheal D. Edwards
2019  Dr. Barry L. Booth
2020  Dr. Mark R. McIlwain
2021  Dr. John Anderson
2022  Dr. Perng-Ru Liu