



Dear DDS Class of 2026,

Congratulations! You have made it! It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to our dental school – a home where you will, over the course of four years, develop yourselves as clinicians, colleagues, patient educators, and professionals. You will make friendships and acquaintances here that will last you a lifetime as you grow into strong leaders of our community. I commend you for all your hard work and dedication to get here.

Your dental school journey will, at times, demand a lot of effort from you and challenge you in many ways. The University of Western Ontario's Dental Student Society, UWODSS, knows you are up to the task and will be alongside you on this journey, eager to help make your dental school experience the best it can be. However, no one will be a greater asset to you than your friends, who know exactly what you are going through on a day-to-day basis. With this in mind, I encourage you to participate in orientation week (O-week), a fantastic way to get to know your classmates and begin making these friendships.

Please take a moment to scroll through the UWODSS website (<https://www.uwodss.com/>) to learn more about it, what it has to offer you, and, if interested, how you can get involved. Shortly after beginning your first term in September, you will elect a class president to be your representative on the UWODSS council; someone who represents your interests and advocates for them to our student body and faculty. If this is something that interests you, please give some thought as to what unique values you can bring to our council that would benefit your fellow classmates.

Your time at Schulich Dentistry will fly by, please make the most of it! If you have any questions or concerns, send me an email at [kjacque@uwo.ca](mailto:kjacque@uwo.ca). I am looking forward to meeting and working with you to make our experiences as dental students the best they can possibly be!

Warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Kate Jacques' followed by a small flourish.

Kate Jacques

UWODSS President, DDS Class of 2023