



James B. Edwards
College of Dental Medicine

Chair of the Department of Reconstructive and Rehabilitation Sciences

James B. Edwards College of Dental Medicine
Medical University of South Carolina

THE SEARCH

The Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC) James B. Edwards College of Dental Medicine invites applications and nominations for the position of Chair of the Department of Reconstructive and Rehabilitation Sciences (RRS). This is an exceptional opportunity for an accomplished dental educator and clinician to lead a dynamic department that serves as the academic and clinical home for predoctoral prosthodontics, restorative dentistry, and digital dentistry, as well as the Advanced Education in General Dentistry (AEGD) residency program.

The next Chair will lead a department that sits at the heart of the College's educational and clinical missions. RRS is uniquely positioned to shape the foundational skills and philosophies of MUSC's dental students, overseeing both preclinical and clinical instruction in restorative care and guiding the transition to comprehensive patient care. With a growing emphasis on digital workflows and interdisciplinary approaches, the department plays a critical role in preparing graduates to practice at the forefront of modern dentistry.

Reporting to the Dean of the College of Dental Medicine and serving on the Dean's Leadership Council, the Chair is responsible for strategic planning, faculty development, curriculum innovation, and operational oversight of a large and diverse team. The successful candidate will be a collaborative leader and skilled communicator who brings academic stature, clinical excellence, and a demonstrated commitment to mentoring and education. They will have the opportunity to strengthen cross-campus partnerships, support the expansion of clinical and academic programs, and help shape the future of oral health education in South Carolina and beyond.

The Medical University of South Carolina has retained Isaacson, Miller to assist with this important recruitment. Nominations and applications should be directed as indicated at the end of this document.

THE MEDICAL UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

The Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC), founded in 1824 in Charleston, is the state's only comprehensive academic health sciences center and one of the oldest continually operating medical schools in the United States. With a mission to preserve and optimize human life in South Carolina and beyond, MUSC is widely recognized for its excellence in health professions education, cutting-edge biomedical research, and high-quality, patient-centered clinical care.

MUSC comprises six colleges—Dental Medicine, Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, Graduate Studies, and Health Professions—serving over 3,000 students across more than 40 academic programs. The university employs approximately 18,000 people statewide and includes more than 1,700 full-time faculty. MUSC is consistently ranked among the top health sciences universities in the country and is a major driver of South Carolina's biomedical research enterprise, securing over \$300 million annually in extramural funding.

In addition to its academic and research missions, MUSC operates MUSC Health, a rapidly growing clinical health system that spans the state and includes more than 100 outreach locations, multiple hospitals and regional medical centers, and one of the nation's largest and most successful telehealth programs. In recent years, MUSC Health has expanded significantly through strategic partnerships and acquisitions, reinforcing its role as a leading provider of advanced care throughout the Southeast.

MUSC is nationally recognized for its expertise in neuroscience, cancer care, cardiology, pediatrics, and transplantation. The institution's research and clinical faculty regularly lead pioneering work in areas such as telehealth innovation, health disparities, artificial intelligence in medicine, and the integration of oral health into whole-person care. These strengths are supported by robust institutional infrastructure, including research cores, clinical trials support, and interdisciplinary collaboration across the health sciences campus.

Located in the heart of historic Charleston, MUSC offers a distinctive setting that blends academic rigor with quality of life. The city is known for its cultural richness, coastal charm, and vibrant culinary and arts scenes. MUSC's main campus is deeply embedded in Charleston's medical district and plays a central role in serving the region's healthcare needs, from its flagship university hospital to its community-based clinics and outreach programs across the state.

As it looks to the future, MUSC is guided by its Imagine MUSC 2028 strategic plan, which emphasizes innovation, diversity and inclusion, statewide impact, and a bold commitment to improving health and wellness for all South Carolinians.

THE COLLEGE OF DENTAL MEDICINE

The James B. Edwards College of Dental Medicine—MUSC's dental school and the only one in South Carolina—continues to deepen its impact across education, clinical service, and innovation. Since enrolling

its first D.M.D. class in 1971 after being authorized in 1953, the college has developed into a key institution for oral health education and care in the state.

Education & Residency Training

The D.M.D. program is complemented by a range of postdoctoral offerings, including endodontics, orthodontics, periodontics, pediatric dentistry, prosthodontics, and an Advanced Education in General Dentistry (AEGD) program. The college also offers a distinctive certificate-plus-M.S.D. program in digital dentistry—one of the first in the country—providing advanced training in guided implant placement, digital smile design, and CAD/CAM workflows.

Clinical Facilities & Community Outreach

Students and residents train in the James B. Edwards Dental Clinics Building, a 120,000-square-foot facility that houses the college's comprehensive care, urgent care, and specialty clinics. In recent years, the college has expanded its footprint with new off-campus clinical training sites, including:

- A dental clinic at MUSC Health West Ashley Medical Pavilion, offering four treatment rooms and on-site imaging capabilities.
- A satellite site serving the Nexton/Summerville community, broadening access to care in rapidly growing areas of the state.

The college also operates the Pamela Kaminski Clinic for Adolescents and Adults with Special Health Care Needs, which provides Medicaid-supported preventive and restorative care to patients with intellectual and developmental disabilities. This longstanding program is both a vital clinical service and a meaningful educational experience for students.

Innovation & Technology

In early 2025, the college launched a new Innovation Laboratory, equipped with intraoral and extraoral scanners, CAD/CAM software, 3D printing, and milling capabilities. The lab supports curriculum innovation and clinical skill development, particularly in areas like digital prosthodontics and esthetic dentistry. Faculty are also piloting the use of AI in diagnostics and treatment planning to enhance both classroom and clinical instruction.

Broader Institutional & Mission Alignment

With approximately 65,000 patient visits annually, a growing emphasis on interprofessional education, and a statewide service mission, the College of Dental Medicine plays a central role in MUSC's vision to improve health and well-being across South Carolina. The college's faculty, students, and graduates are deeply engaged in addressing disparities in oral healthcare access while advancing the profession through thoughtful integration of new technologies and care models.

The Department of Reconstructive and Rehabilitation Sciences sits at the core of this mission, anchoring foundational clinical instruction and shaping the next generation of practice-ready, patient-centered dental professionals.

ROLE OF THE CHAIR

The Chair of the Department of Reconstructive and Rehabilitation Sciences (RRS) serves as the academic, clinical, and administrative leader for a department central to the College's mission. Reporting to the Dean and serving on the Dean's Leadership Council, the Chair provides strategic oversight for a portfolio that includes predoctoral education, graduate training, faculty development, and departmental operations.

RRS comprises two divisions—Prosthodontics and Restorative Dentistry—and oversees the Advanced Education in General Dentistry (AEGD) program. The department plays a key role in preclinical instruction, comprehensive care education, and digital dentistry.

The next Chair will be a collaborative and visible leader with the experience and interpersonal skill to mentor faculty, guide growth, and foster alignment across a complex academic and clinical environment. Key responsibilities include:

Academic Leadership

- Oversee curriculum design and delivery in prosthodontics, restorative, and digital dentistry
- Ensure alignment with accreditation standards and institutional goals

Clinical Education & Comprehensive Care

- Lead the department's contributions to comprehensive care education
- Collaborate with clinical affairs and other departments to ensure a high-quality patient and student experience

Faculty Development

- Recruit, mentor, and support faculty across ranks and roles
- Foster a collaborative, inclusive, and team-oriented departmental culture

Graduate Program Oversight

- Support the AEGD program and its director in curriculum, accreditation, and resident mentorship

Digital Integration

- Guide the continued adoption of digital technologies across teaching and care
- Partner with faculty leaders to leverage the college's Innovation Lab and other digital resources

Strategic Growth & Institutional Alignment

- Contribute to the development of new off-campus clinical sites and partnerships
- Engage in broader initiatives to integrate oral health into team-based, interprofessional care

Administrative Management

- Oversee budgeting, staffing, and resource allocation

- Coordinate with division chiefs and program directors
- Manage educational grants and ensure compliance

Engagement & Visibility

- Maintain an active clinical and academic presence
- Participate in faculty practice, if applicable
- Represent the department within the College, across MUSC, and beyond

The Chair will work closely with college and university leadership to support MUSC's broader goals in digital dentistry, workforce development, and interdisciplinary collaboration.

KEY OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

The next Chair of Reconstructive and Rehabilitation Sciences will join the College at a time of growth, energy, and institutional investment. With the department playing a central role in predoctoral education, comprehensive care, and digital innovation, this position offers the chance to make a meaningful and lasting impact.

Lead in a time of strategic expansion

The department is poised for growth across both predoctoral and graduate education, including new clinical sites and expanded outreach. The Chair will play a central role in aligning people, infrastructure, and systems to support this trajectory while maintaining a strong educational foundation.

Foster a culture of mentorship and collaboration

There is strong interest among faculty for a leader who can support professional growth, promote clarity around expectations and advancement, and build trust through visible, people-centered leadership. The Chair will have the opportunity to shape departmental culture in meaningful ways.

Advance digital dentistry and clinical innovation

With dedicated infrastructure—including a newly launched Innovation Lab—the college is committed to preparing students for a changing practice landscape. The Chair will guide continued integration of digital workflows, support faculty development in this space, and help the department remain aligned with industry and technological trends.

Strengthen interdisciplinary and institutional partnerships

As part of a broader academic health center, the department is well positioned to contribute to interprofessional training and collaborative care. The Chair will work with leaders across dentistry, medicine, nursing, pharmacy, and public health to explore new models of integration and shared clinical education.

Support the AEGD program and graduate training

The AEGD program plays a key role in the department's mission and offers unique training opportunities

in comprehensive and complex care. The Chair will support program development, resident mentorship, and continued alignment with clinical and academic priorities.

Navigate growth with pragmatism and vision

As the College grows, so too do the demands on infrastructure, faculty, and administrative systems. The Chair will need to lead with both realism and optimism—prioritizing thoughtfully, advocating effectively, and helping the department grow in ways that are sustainable, mission-aligned, and student-focused.

QUALIFICATIONS AND CHARACTERISTICS

The successful candidate will be an experienced academic clinician and collaborative leader with a strong record of contributions to dental education, clinical care, and faculty development. While no single pathway is required, the ideal candidate will demonstrate many of the following qualifications and characteristics:

Educational Credentials

- D.D.S., D.M.D., or equivalent degree from a CODA-accredited dental school or international equivalent
- Eligibility for dental licensure or faculty licensure in South Carolina
- Advanced training in prosthodontics or restorative dentistry preferred
- Board certification or eligibility preferred

Academic and Clinical Experience

- At least five years of experience in academic dentistry, including teaching and clinical supervision
- Prior leadership experience, such as serving as program director, division lead, or department chair
- Demonstrated understanding of accreditation standards and clinical education administration
- Experience mentoring faculty across ranks and supporting promotion and professional development
- Familiarity with digital dentistry and innovation in teaching and practice

Leadership Attributes

- Strategic thinker with the ability to lead through influence, collaboration, and trust
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills
- Visible, engaged, and accessible leadership style
- Ability to navigate complex institutional structures with patience and pragmatism

APPLICATIONS AND NOMINATIONS

The Medical University of South Carolina has retained Isaacson, Miller, a national executive search firm, to assist the search committee in its identification and review of candidates.

Applications should include a letter of interest, a statement of career goals, a curriculum vitae, and the names of three professional references. Materials must be submitted through the MUSC Careers website.

To Apply:

[Submit an application via MUSC Careers](#)

To Nominate a Candidate:

[Submit a nomination via Isaacson, Miller](#)

MUSC is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer. All qualified applicants are encouraged to apply.

Dan Rodas, Partner

Sam Ruth, Senior Associate

Seema Khan, Senior Search Coordinator

Isaacson, Miller