2015 Distinguished Alumnus of the Year: 
Joseph G. Mirci, D.D.S. ‘82

2015 Outstanding New Dentist: 
Kari A. Cunningham, D.M.D. ‘10, ‘12

- Private practitioner and an associate clinical professor at the University of Utah where he directs the pre-dental curriculum
- Serves the Western Regional Examining Board as an examiner
- Two-time recipient of the Academy of General Dentistry’s Lifelong Learning & Service Recognition
- Named Dentist of the Year in 1996 for the Utah Academy of General Dentistry
- Involved with a number of organizations that provide dental services to the underprivileged

“Dr. Mirci is an asset to his profession and a leader among his peers. His ability, experience, and true commitment to excellence distinguish him as an outstanding dentist,” says Phil Aftoora, Director of Student Services and nominator.

- Instructor of Dental Anatomy for the Summer Medical and Dental Education Program (SMDEP)
- Serves as the dental director and pediatric dentist of Lorain County Health and Dentistry – a community health center
- Assistant clinical professor for both the Department of Community Dentistry and Department of Pediatric Dentistry at the CWRU School of Dental Medicine
- Currently setting up pediatric dental practices within Hudec Dental’s network of private practices in the Greater Cleveland area

“After traveling the world I realized the disparity that exists in the utilization of oral health care beyond our borders, and that made me feel as if my calling is to be more of a community dentist serving underserved populations,” says Dr. Cunningham.