

IOWA

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The 2019 ISO Annual Meeting was held Sunday and Monday, October 13-14, 2019. The Sunday session occurred at the University of Iowa College of Dentistry featuring Dr. **Tom Southard** and the residents and faculty of the Iowa Orthodontic Department. Monday's program took place at the Graduate Hotel in Iowa City and featured Dr. **Shane Langley** from South Alabama Orthodontics speaking on a variety of clinical topics.

Due to the pandemic-related restrictions, the Midwestern Society of Orthodontists Annual Meeting in Chicago October 2-3, 2020, has been changed to a virtual format. The Pacific Coast Society of Orthodontists (PCSO), Rocky Mountain Society of Orthodontists (RMSO), Midwestern Society of Orthodontists, and Southwestern Society of Orthodontists have joined forces to provide a combined virtual 2020 annual session. For similar reasons, the Iowa Society of Orthodontists meeting that was to occur in conjunction with the MSO meeting will consist of a virtual business meeting that will be held by Zoom at 9:00 am on Sunday, October 4.

Things were relatively quiet on the legislative front as everyone was focused on dealing with the pandemic-related shutdown, which was imposed by the Governor and lasted from March 18 to May 11. Practices were able to resume with new procedures and PPE requirements mandated by the Iowa Dental Board. Many doctors have reported that their practices have nicely accommodated to the new "normal" and have been doing very well.

This will be my final newsletter submission on behalf of my amazing colleagues in the state of Iowa. It has been an honor and privilege to serve on this Board and I will cherish the friendships I made over the last eight years. I am pleased to introduce Dr. **Melissa Bernhardt** as the incoming MSO Director for Iowa. She will carry on Iowa's long tradition of leadership and engagement in service to our wonderful profession.

David Gehring

Cedar Rapids, Iowa