# Midwestern Society of Orthodontists

## Electronic Newsletter Articles January 2018

A compilation of the news articles that were posted on the MSO web site in January 2018.

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# MSO Components

## IOWA

**Judith Demro**, President
**Suzanne Stock**, President-Elect
**Corey Conrad**, Vice President
**Clayton Parks**, Secretary/ Treasurer

The 2017 ISO Annual Meeting was held at Hotel Vetro in Iowa City on October 8-9, 2017. Sunday's session featured lectures on a variety of interesting topics from the University of Iowa faculty. Monday's sessions featured Dr. **Eustaquio Araujo**. He discussed a variety of topics including the management of impactions, nonsurgical Class III treatment, 1 vs 2 phase treatment and treatment of hyperdivergent cases.

The Iowa Dental Board continues to consider rule revisions to Chapter 26, Specialty Advertising and Chapter 28, Designation of Specialty. This issue is continuing to cause great concern among the orthodontists and other dental specialists in the state.

**Sean Murphy** is the legal counsel for the AAO and has been very helpful in helping communicate our opinions and concerns to the Board. Recently, he has forwarded to the Iowa Board the recent amendments that Louisiana has made to its specialty laws. These amendments state, in pertinent part, "The board finds that terms implying that a dentist is a specialist in some field of dentistry are terms of art indicating that the dentist has completed an accredited post-doctoral educational program in that field of at least two years. Therefore, a licensed dentist seeking specialty recognition must have successfully completed a post-doctoral program in a specialty area of dentistry consisting of at least two full-time years and which is accredited by an accreditation agency that is recognized by the United States Department of Education." Louisiana's recent amendments can hopefully provide some additional guidance.

The next Iowa Dental Board meeting is in January where this topic will be revisited. There is still uncertainty as to what the outcome will be but our representation will advocate for what is best for our specialty and for the protection of our patients.

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## ILLINOIS

**Betsy Ulrich**, President
**Randy Wright**, President-Elect
**Doug Head**, Vice President
**William Beam**, Secretary-Treasurer

For ISO news, check the news link at its website, www.isortho.org/News.aspx.

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## MANITOBA

**Bobby Ward**, President

**Roger Moir**, Secretary/Treasurer

For MOS news, check the news link at its website, www.mbbraces.com

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## Minnesota

**Heather Carr**, President
**Cheryl Cermin**, President-elect
**James Haack**, Vice President
**Heather Horton**, Secretary/Treasurer

The MAO Fall meeting was a success. It was held on September 22, 2017 at the Edina Country Club, Edina, Minnesota. The speaker was Dr. **Mike Lanzetta** who gave us some helpful insights on Invisalign treatment in his office.

The MAO Annual Winter Meeting will be on Friday, January 5, 2018, at the Minneapolis Marriott City Center Hotel. The speaker for the doctor session will be from Vanderbilt University, Dr. **Harry Legan**, speaking on orthodontics and obstructive sleep apnea. The staff program speaker for the morning session will be **Chuck Hill** from 3M on bonding technique and materials and the afternoon speaker is yet TBD.

The MAO Executive Board meets year-round to continue planning for meetings and addressing critical issues that affect our fellow members. Be sure to check our website, mnortho.org for membership information and updates on events and news. We thank Dr. **David Resch** for his time in developing and maintaining the website.

The MAO was approved for the AAO CAP matching fund in September 2017. The board hired Minneapolis-based marketing firm, Ainsley Shea for local marketing media coverage and will utilize **Katie Maassen** from the AAO for all digital and social media marketing. Marketing to consumers began in late October 2017.

Dr. **Brent Larson** is currently serving as AAO President-Elect. He will be elected AAO President at the AAO Annual Session in Washington, D.C. next spring. We are thankful for all his efforts in serving our profession at the state, regional and national levels.

Two Minnesota orthodontists will be receiving awards at the next AAO Annual Session in Washington, D.C. We were excited to learn our own Dr. **Steve Litton** will be the recipient of the James E. Brophy Distinguished Service Award from the AAO and Dr. **Brent Larson** will receive the Louise Ada Jarabak Memorial International Teachers and Research Award from the AAOF. Please join us in congratulating them!

We would like to thank Dr. **Deb Lien** for serving on the AAO Council of Governmental Affairs and for providing her talents to support the AAOPAC for Minnesota. For our state, Deb currently serves on MAO Legislative and Regulatory Affairs Committee along with Drs. **Donna Stenberg** and **Heather Horton**. They have done an outstanding job on behalf of MAO tirelessly meeting with the Minnesota Board of Dentistry to approve changes for Licensed Dental Assistants expanded functions and permitted duties. We encourage our members to attend the Minnesota Board of Dentistry meetings, especially with the latest discussion about certain professionals requesting specialty recognition. The AAO legal

counsel has been working with our state to help oversee the events at the dental board meetings.

MAO is proud to co-sponsor the MSO Annual Session in Bloomington at the Radisson Blu Hotel at the Mall of America. Our current MSO President, Dr. **Ryan Van Lacken** from South Dakota, along with **Kristi Burmeister** and the Planning Committee have organized a wonderful meeting. We hope you will consider joining us and bring your team to learn and mingle with colleagues at the meeting!

Please join us in congratulating our own, Dr. **Kevin Denis**, who has taken on the role as MSO President-Elect at the MSO Annual Session in New Orleans! We are looking forward to his leadership as MSO President in 2019.

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## Missouri

**Mike LaFerla**, President
**Jeffrey Cavanaugh**, Secretary/Treasuer
**Neil Kanning**, Past President

Dr. **Michael LaFerla** became president of the Missouri Society of Orthodontists at the Annual AAO meeting in San Diego in 2017. Please reach out to Michael and thank him for his service.

The Missouri Society website has been changed and updated to same format as the Midwestern Society with a small decrease in cost to the Missouri component.

The next business meeting is planned during the Annual Session in Bloomington, Minnesota, September 21-22, 2018. Please look at www.msortho.org for information and please plan to attend.

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## NORTH DAKOTA

**Michiel Nuveen**, President
**Daniel Keith**, Vice President
**Jeremiah Danel**, Secretary

North Dakota had several exciting occurrences at the 2017 MSO Annual Session in New Orleans this past September. Dr. **Dennis Sommers** received the Earl E. Shephard Distinguished Service Award for his lifelong commitment to our association and specialty and Dr. **Alison Fallgatter** transitioned onto the MSO Executive Committee as she is now serving as Secretary-Treasurer. Dr. **Daniel Keith** has moved into the North Dakota State Director position within the MSO Board.

As we look ahead to the 2018 AAO Annual Session in Washington DC, there will again be three North Dakotans on the delegation team including Dr. **Alison Fallgatter** serving as Vice-Chair with Drs. **Dennis Sommers** and **Daniel Keith** serving as delegates. We are honored to be a part of Delegation Chair Dr. **Spencer Pope**'s team.

The next meeting of the North Dakota Society of Orthodontists is tentatively planned for Spring 2018. In the future, North Dakota looks forward to teaming up with our colleagues in South Dakota in holding biennial joint state meetings together in an effort to maximize member engagement and participation.

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## WISCONSIN

**Alan Ostertag**, President
**David Mentz**, President-Elect
**Chip Bird**, Vice President
**Doug Barden**, Secretary/Treasurer

The WSO Fall Conference was held on Friday, October 13, 2017 at the KI Convention Center in Green Bay. Our featured speaker was **Gerald S. Samson**, DDS. His presentation, *MIX'n in Wisco – Hands-on Mixed Dentition Orthodontics,* was enjoyed by attendees.



Left to right: Drs. Gerald Samson, Scott Arbit, David Mentz

The WSO continues its work on the Consumer Awareness Program (CAP). The goal of the program is to educate the public on the difference between a general dentist and an orthodontist when it comes to providing orthodontic treatment. The WSO is utilizing Social Media (Facebook), advertising and other Search Engine Marketing (SEM) techniques to get our message out to the public.

The WSO Spring Conference will be held on April 20, 2018 at The Edgewater in Madison. Our featured speaker, Dr. **Roger Levin**, will share breakthrough marketing strategies for growing doctor and parent referrals. The MSO Board is invited!

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# Graduate School Programs

## UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

Greetings from the University of Iowa Department of Orthodontics. It's hard to believe this is the last Newsletter for this year. We lost a valuable and long-time orthodontist and colleague this past September when Dr. **Bill Olin** passed away following a sudden illness.

Our residents have stayed busy with coursework, patient care and research leading up to their thesis defense in the spring. We have been able to bring in interesting and informative speakers, including Dr. **Kyle Mann** (08), Dr. **Laurel Martin** (95), Dr. **David Cummins** (92), Dr. **Shankar Rengasamy Venugopalan** from UMKC, Dr. **Chung Min-ho** from South Korea and Dr. **Brian Jesperson** (81). Recently, Dr. **Pat Foley** gave a presentation on behalf of the American Board of Orthodontics. In January, Dr. **Barry Glaser** gave a day-long presentation on Invisalign which is open to orthodontic alumni and qualifies for CE credit. We appreciate the time and travel taken by these guest speakers.

The College of Dentistry & Dental Clinics, University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics and the Center for Developmental Disabilities have embarked on a collaborative project to link up more than 250,000 unique patient records from the UIHC, CDD and the CoD. The Big Data Project's goal is to create an immense resource for UI researchers and health care providers. A $600,000 three-year grant from the Roy J. Carver Charitable Trust is supporting this goal as part of the Biorepository project. Dr. **Veerasathpurush Allareddy**, a professor and researcher in the Department of Orthodontics has been instrumental in organizing this project.

Wishing everyone good health and happy holidays!

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## UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

Congratulations to our third-year residents who graduate form our 36-month program at the end of June. Dr. **Virginie Provencal** is now practicing in Montreal and Drs. **Matt Kotyk** and **Alvaro Salles** are in Winnipeg. Alvaro also has a branch practice in Regina. They were also successful in the Royal College Board exams, as were Drs. **Robert Drummond** and **Baha Atout**. Congratulations to all!

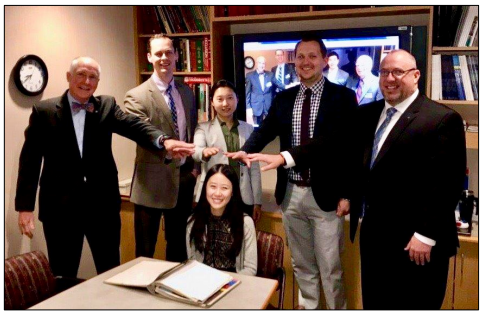
Our current third-year residents all presented their research at the CAO meeting held in September in Toronto this year. Congratulations go to Drs. **Yohanine Roos**, **Paige Kozak** and **Antoine Beaudet**.

Drs. **Matt Kotyk**, **Alvaro Salles** and **Kevin Vint** (MFOS) will be joining our part-time teaching ranks and we extend a warm welcome to them.

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## MAYO CLINIC

We concluded a busy spring with the graduation of Dr. **Eric Orbison** in June. Dr. Orbison relocated with his wife, **Jenna**, and their son, **Evan**, to Pennsylvania where they are hoping to enjoy much milder winters. In July, Dr. Orbison joined Happy Valley Orthodontics located in State College, Pennsylvania. So far we have heard no complaints about the winters there.



L to R: Drs. John Volz, Eric Orbison, Peini Zhu, Paul Meyer, Chad Rasmussen

July brought the arrival of Dr. **Lesley Chu** to our orthodontic program. She is a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine and originally from Maryland. Dr. Chu attended GORP this past September and completed her "Orthodontic Boot Camp" in October under the instruction of Dr. **Frederick Regennitter**,"Emeritus Professor," who continues to help with the training and education of our residents. Dr. Chu has been busy this past six months with her introduction to the clinic and getting her orthodontic cases started.

Dr. **Paul Meyer**, our second-year resident, completed the Tweed course in September and is busy starting to finish many of his orthodontic cases. Dr. Meyer is also preparing to take the American Board of Orthodontists written examination this April.

Dr. **Peini Zhu** assumed the duties of Chief Resident with Dr. Orbison's graduation. She has made her mark on the program and is preparing to complete her research and defend her thesis in April. Dr. Zhu is completing treatment of her patients and has begun the process of selecting and preparing her cases for the clinical portion of the American Board of Orthodontists certification examination.

We completed our interview process this past November and our match resident was Dr. **Abbey Jewel** who will graduate from the University of Missouri – Kansas City School of Dentistry and join our orthodontic program in July of 2018. We are looking forward to Abbey joining our team.

We had two visitors to our program this past year who both presented half-day seminars. Dr. **Regina Blevins** presented an Invisalign seminar in March. Dr. **Patrick Foley**, Midwestern Director of the American Board of Orthodontists, presented a seminar in November. The residents and faculty very much appreciated the contribution to the orthodontic program of these two distinguished visitors.



Dr. Regina Blevins with Mayo faculty and residents



Dr. Patrick Foley with Mayo faculty and residents

We want to thank all who were able to attend the Mayo Orthodontic alumni dinner at this year's Annual Session of the American Association of Orthodontists held in San Diego. It was great to get the group together again and catch up with each other. We are all looking forward to the Washington, D.C. meeting in 2018. Alumni dinner plans are already in the works.

The Orthodontic Section, along with the Department of Dental Specialties, will transition to a new electronic health record (Epic Systems) this spring as part of a Mayo Clinic enterprise-wide effort to consolidate its medical records. This is an ambitious project, which will help facilitate patient care throughout the Mayo Health Care System.

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## UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

The University of Minnesota first- and second-year residents are progressing well in their training. The transition to intraoral scanning for diagnostic records is working well. The patient's acceptances, positive responses, cleanliness and the speed of the return of scan information have been just a few of the benefits of this change. The intraoral scanner is an exciting complement to CBCTs and other technologies used by our residents in diagnosis and treatment planning.

Our new first-year resident class in alphabetical order are: Drs. **Olivia Chou** from Kaohsiung Medical University in Taiwan; **Paige Daney** from the University of Kentucky; **Jacqueline Heath** from New York University; **Molly Kopf** from the University of Nebraska; **Samuel Titus** from Indiana University; and **Nathan VanLaecken** from the University of Minnesota. They had a great experience at the GORP conference and will be attending the Moyers Symposium in March and the AAO Annual Session in May.

The second-year resident class just returned from visiting the orthodontic program in Valencia, Spain. The class was sent to Valencia for one week in November to observe and interact with its graduate orthodontic program. Their residents will be coming to observe our program in April. We continue to feel that this exchange is, not only an opportunity to observe another program, but an opportunity to create new, international orthodontic professional relationships and new friends. This exchange continues to create much excitement and enthusiasm for our residents. We feel that is very important for our residents to be involved in the "Orthodontic World" from the beginning of their training and to support them in these travel experiences.

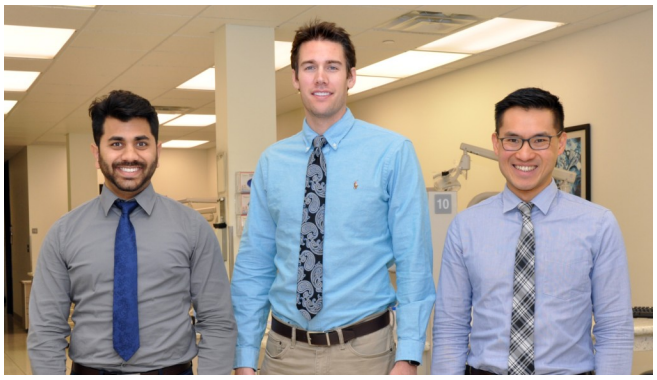
The second-year class is now very busy with completing their research, preparing for the ABO exam and contemplating the end of training. Our thanks go to Dr. **John Kanyusik**, one of our fine adjunct faculty, for his guidance and input for ABO certification.

I look forward to the next newsletter when I will have more information on future resident plans. Please feel free to call me any time and see you at the University of Minnesota reunion in Washington, D.C.

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## UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA

**Introducing the orthodontic residents that began July 2017**
**(Graduating December 2019)**



L to R: Dr. Jaykishan Patel, Dr. Bradley Herman and Dr. Yat Tang.

**Bradley Herman (Brad)**
Brad graduated from MidAmerica Nazarene University in December 2011 with a major in Biology. He graduated with his Degree in Dentistry from the UNMC College of Dentistry in May 2017.

Brad enjoys an active lifestyle including working out, playing tennis, hiking, soccer and golf. Before beginning the COD Orthodontic residency Program, Brad, accompanied by his wife of four years, Rachael, completed a vacation to Arizona. In addition to the ambitious goal of starting his own private orthodontic practice, Brad's active lifestyle has added "running a marathon" to his bucket list.

We are certain many Ortho Alumni share Brad and Rachael's enjoyment of Lincoln dining at Vincenzo's Italian Restaurant and Valentino's. Surprise Tidbit: among Brad's many accomplishments is the little known fact that he was an NCAA tennis player in college.

**Jaykishan Patel (Jay)**
Jay graduated from the University of North Texas in Denton, TX in 2013 with a B.A. in Biology and a minor in chemistry. He graduated with his D.D.S. in 2017 from the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, Texas.

Jay takes pride in being family oriented. He is the youngest and only boy in the family of Pravin & Rita Patel's of four children. All of Jay's sisters are married with the oldest sister and two children living in the Colony, Texas. The middle sister just got married this past spring in Cancun, Mexico and currently resides in New York City. Jay's youngest sister has one child and lives in Houston.

Jay has a hidden talent and enjoyment for playing drums. He has been playing some variation of a drum since he was 5 years old. He began with Indian drums called the Tabla and Dhol and transitioned to percussion from 6$^{th}$ grade through high school graduation. His talent earned him the honors of being the drum captain all 4 years of high school.

When Jay's girlfriend of three years, Krishna (a practicing dentist in San Antonio, Texas) visits Lincoln, Jay hopes to take in Pinnacle Bank Arena and Haymarket activities in

addition to exploring the many miles of outdoor trails Lincoln has to offer. He hopes to add dining at The Oven and Oso Burrito, to the places he takes Krishna. Before beginning his orthodontic residency Jay completed a Costa Rican adventure where he zip lined the longest Latin American zip line at 450 feet in the air. Next was a waterfall repelling adventure. This was topped off with tours to observe some of the very exotic local flora and fauna.

After completing his orthodontic residency, Jay hopes to return to the Dallas-Ft. Worth area, beginning as an associate and then building his own practice. Adding to his post residency bucket list is visiting the Seven Wonders of the World.

**Yat Tang (Yat)**
Yat completed his D.D.S from the University of California, San Francisco prior to beginning the UNMC Orthodontic Residency program. In addition to his recent accomplishments in the dental field, Dr. Tang has a B.S. in Cybernetics from UCLA, and a Ph.D. in Computational Biology from Washington University in St. Louis. Among his other accomplishments is his Postdoctoral Training from The Genome Institute at Washington University as well as time as a Bioinformatics Scientist at Monsanto Company.

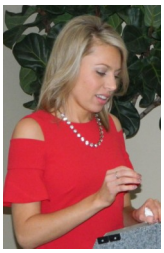
Yat has taken advantage of several recent opportunities to travel both abroad and within the US. In March 2017 he was able to travel to Japan and Hong Kong. Prior to beginning the residency program, Yat enjoyed a road trip exploring the Grand Teton, Yellowstone, and Mount Rushmore National Parks. Additionally in the travel genre Yat has a bucket list of travel wishes including backpacking trips (Europe, South America, Asia), long-distance cycling trip, and hiking the Appalachian Trail to mention a few.

The College of Dentistry Orthodontic residency program appealed to Yat because of the diverse range of malocclusion cases to learn from, the class size, the welcoming residents and faculty, and his interest in research and the opportunity to have time to pursue various research projects.

While in Lincoln Yat has expressed interest in trying a variety of venues including Blue Bloods Brewery, Amu Manu Ramen Bar, Toast, Schilling Bridge Cork & Tap House, The Oven, The Single Barrel, Mr. Hui's, Banhwich Café, Phat Jacks, Lan House and Lazlo's, in addition to exploring the cycling trails, music venues and Cornhusker sporting events.

His goals beyond the orthodontic residency program include pursuing an academic career as a clinician-scientist as well as working part-time in a private practice setting.

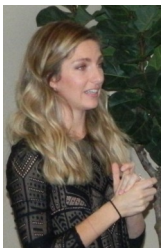
**December 2017 Graduates:**



**Leslie Ellingson** graduated from the University of Nebraska at Omaha with a Bachelor of Science in Biology. In 2015, she received her dental degree from the UNMC College of Dentistry. Following graduation Leslie plans to enter into private practice in Omaha.



**Jacob Stadiem** received his Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences from Ohio State University. He attended Midwestern University-Arizona in Glendale and earned his dental degree. Jacob is moving to Greensboro, North Carolina, and start a private practice.



**Kelsey White** studied in Conway, South Carolina, at the Coastal Carolina University and earned her Bachelors of Science in Biology. She received her dental degree at the University of Missouri - Kansas City. Kelsey will be an associate at Trimmell & Anders Orthodontics in Wichita, Kansas.

**2017 Orthodontic Resident Research and Thesis Presentations**

Dr. Stadiem presented his thesis titled, *CPAP-MAD combination therapy for CPAP intolerant patients with moderate to severe OSA*. In summary; CPAP-MAD combination therapy for CPAP intolerant patients with moderate to severe OSA.

Dr. White presented her thesis titled, *Transcriptome profiling of cleft palate in TGFβ 3-knockout mice alleles: RNA-seq analysis of TGFβ 3mice*. In summary: Orofacial clefts are the most common craniofacial deformity with a complex, combinatorial etiology. This thesis is a global gene analysis of TGFβ mouse alleles—TGFβ is essential to proper palate fusion; further, TGFβ knock-out mice exhibit cleft palate. Using RNA-sequencing, dysregulated genes were identified and explored comparing the wild-type and homozygous mice at crucial time points in palate development. Our objective is to identify genes functionally regulated by TGFβ that may play a part in formation of cleft palate and may serve as potential targets for prevention.

Dr. Ellingson presented her thesis titled, *The effect of mechanical vibration on pain and rate of tooth movement during initial orthodontic alignment*. In summary: Investigating the effect of low and high frequency mechanical vibration on the pain experienced and rate of tooth alignment during the initial stages of orthodontic treatment.

**New Full Time Orthodontic Faculty**

Dr. Meenakshi "Minnie" Vishwanath



Hometown: Bangalore, India

Title and Department at UNMC:
Assistant professor, UNMC College of Dentistry, Department of Growth and Development, Orthodontic Section

Research and Professional interests:
My primary area of interest is in the field of orthodontic biomechanics. It combines my interest in physics and orthodontics and has direct clinical implications. I also am passionate about researching various aspects of impacted canines and clinical challenges involving their treatment. Other major interests are orthognathic surgeries, both conventional and involving surgery first approaches, as well as interdisciplinary care of patients with cleft lip and cleft palate.

How I fell in love with my profession:
When I think of "my profession at UNMC" there are two aspects to it – orthodontics and teaching, and I love them both. Growing up in a family of academicians, the value of being a lifelong learner was instilled in me early on. This was followed by the realization that teaching is one of the best forms of learning and thus the natural progression into the academic world. It was a serendipitous event that led to orthodontics choosing me, and I am grateful to be part of this wonderful profession. I enjoy transforming smiles: sometimes confined to straightening a few crooked teeth and sometimes entire

faces; sometimes those of children and sometimes those of adults who have waited for it all their lives. The gratification that comes from being a part of their lives and helping them make this journey into developing confident smiles is unparalleled.

Degrees:

- B.D.S., Pondicherry University, India
- M.D.S., (orthodontics) S.D.M. Dharwad, RGUHS, India
- M.Dent.Sc., (orthodontics) School of Dental Medicine, UConn Health Center, Farmington, Conn.

Memberships:

- American Association of Orthodontists
- International Association for Dental Research
- Membership in Orthodontics Royal College of Surgeons, Edinburgh

Three things people may not know about me:

- I love reading biographies and Wikipedia.
- I am an animal lover and ardent vegetarian.
- I am a yoga enthusiast

**Incoming Orthodontic Class of 2020 beginning at UNMC July 2018:**



Left to Right: Drs. Alaina Allen, Kristopher Keller and Landon Petersen

Dr. **Alaina Allen** began her educational endeavors at the University of Nebraska-Omaha before transferring to Truman State University in Missouri, where she obtained her B.S. in biology in 2014. She will complete her D.D.S. here at the UNMC College of Dentistry in May 2018.

Dr. **Kristopher Keller** earned his B.S. in biology in 2014, and he will receive his D.D.S. in 2018, both from Texas A&M University.

Dr. **Landon Peterson** completed his undergraduate work at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and received his B.S. in veterinary

medicine in 2014. He will receive his D.D.S. from the UNMC College of Dentistry in 2018.

**First Professor First Professorship of Orthodontics created at UNMC College of Dentistry**



Mrs. Anne Cech

In July 2015 the First Professorship of Orthodontics was created at UNMC College of Dentistry as a result of the generous giving of Mrs. Anne Cech, widow of the late Dr. Henry Cech, UNL Class of 1952, former Cornhusker basketball player, and an active alumnus. Dr. Cech received his dental degree in 1956 and his orthodontic degree in 1958. He passed away in 2011.

HHenry and Anne Cech were actively involved in many university activities over the years. During this time, Anne and Henry generously supported the College of Dentistry. In 2006, they also helped fund a seminar room and library in the College of Dentistry building, which is located in Lincoln on UNL's East Campus.

Anne started the Dr. Henry & Anne Cech Professorship – an endowment to support faculty in orthodontics – to help a place and programs they love grow even stronger. She knows her gift would have pleased her husband.

For a short video featuring Mrs. Cech and the entire story written by foundation intern **Madison Wurtele**, click on the following link: **https://nufoundation.org/-/article-firstprofessorship-of-orthodontics-created-atunmc-college-of-dentistry**

**Scholarly Activities**
**Publications:**
Premaraj S, Luong B, Kim S, Premaraj T: *Cervical spine angles, craniocervical posture, neck length and oropharyngeal airway analyses of obstructive sleep apnea patients in both supine and upright positions: a retrospective three-dimensional imaging study, craniofacial growth series.* Monograph, In Press.

Premaraj T, Scott J, Burns M, Premaraj S: *CBCT evaluation of volumetric changes in the upper airway following repositioning the mandible to centric relation, craniofacial growth series.* Monograph, In Press.

Rector J, Kapil S, Treude KJ, Kumm P, Glanzer JG, Byrne BM, Liu S, Smith LM, DiMaio DJ, Giannini P, Smith RB, Oakley GG: *S4S8-RPA phosphorylation as an indicator of cancer progression in oral squamous cell carcinomas.* Oncotarget. 2017; 8(6):9243-9250.

Willett ES, Liu J, Berke M, Giannini PJ, Schmid M, Jia Z, Wang X, Wang X, Samson K, Yu F, Wang D, Nawshad A, Reinhardt RA: *Standardized Rat Model Testing Effects of Inflammation and Grafting on Extraction Healing.* J Periodontol. 2017; 88(8):799-807.

Holwegner C, Reinhardt AL, Schmid MJ, Marx DB, Reinhardt RA: *Impact of local steroid or statin treatment of experimental temporomandibular joint arthritis on bone growth in young rats*. Am J Orthod Dentofacial Orthop. 2015; 147(1):80-8.

**Grants/Contracts**

Premaraj S: *Gingival crevicular fluid levels of sclerostin during orthodontic treatment with fixed appliances*; UNMC College of Dentistry, Faculty seed grant; July 1, 2016–June 30, 2017.

Premaraj S: *Effects of flash-free brackets on plaque retention, development of white spot lesions, and bracket failures: a comparative clinical study*; 3M Unitek, Sept. 2015 – Dec. 2016.

Premaraj S and Datta K, PI: *Neuropilin-2 axis in docetaxel resistance and prostate cancer bone metastasis*, DHHS/NIH/NCI (1R01CA182435-01A1); Feb. 1, 2015 – Jan. 31, 2020.

Premaraj T: Luong B: *CPAP – MAD combination therapy for CPAP intolerant patients with moderate to severe OSA*. DH Reinhardt Scholar, July 2016-2017.

Premaraj T: *Ethnic variation in prevalence of congenitally missing permanent teeth among adolescence: 10-year evaluation of patients at UNMC*. UNMC College of Dentistry Student Summer Research Fellowship, June 2016-June 2017.

Premaraj T (co-investigator): *Curricular innovation application, case-based interdisciplinary team approach to treatment planning*. UNMC, Office of the Vice Chancellor, Oct. 2015.

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## SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY

Fourteen residents graduated in December of 2017 and they have scattered across the U.S. and the world and are expected to serve their patients and specialty admirably. They and their home dental school are:

Dr. **Karim Allahdina**, University of Texas San Antonio
Dr. **Daniel Areepong**, A.T. Still University
Dr. **Kenneth Edwards**, Midwestern University Arizona
Dr. **Bryan Ganim**, University of Louisville
Dr. **Steven Hemphill**, Baylor College of Dentistry
Dr. **Erin Jain**, Southern Illinois University
Dr. **Sung Kim**, University of Michigan
Dr. **Paige Pfeffer**, University of Pittsburgh
Dr. **Thinh Pham**, Baylor College of Dentistry
Dr. **Bhudsadee Saenghirunvattana**, Chulalongkorn University, Thailand
Dr. **Lisa Seim**, University of Missouri – Kansas City
Dr. **Brandon Tivis**, Baylor College of Dentistry
Dr. **Irish Abigail Tongco**, University of Florida
Dr. **Yi Yang**, Baylor College of Dentistry

All of the graduated residents passed the ABO written exam and most are preparing their cases for the upcoming clinical exams. The competency exam for the Class of 2017 was recently done by Drs. **Larry Tadlock** (Baylor) and Dr. **Tim Trulove** (University of Alabama). It was a rewarding experience for all.

Two new full-time faculty are joining SLU/CADE on January 1. They are Drs. **Julie McCray** and **Patrick Foley**. Drs. **Darren Rodabough**, **Brent Bankhead** and **John Firth** have been added to our clinical faculty. Drs. **Matt Bauer** and **Zak Varble** have decided to pause their activities as clinical instructors.

After a little over 15 years our esteemed faculty member, Dr. **Don Oliver**, has retired. Dr. **Rolf Behrents**, who also retires on December 31, 2017, will volunteer two days a month in 2018 and will continue to teach literature, cephalometrics and research. The search committee for the new program director has set interviews for the month of January 2018.

The Orthodontic Education and Research Foundation will hold its next meeting March 9-11, 2018 at the Ritz-Carlton in St. Louis. Many fine speakers will enlighten the audience. They are Drs. **Peter Shapiro** (Merit Award Recipient), **Richard McLaughlin**, **Eustaquio Araujo**, **Sanjivan Kandasamy**, **Louis Chmura** and **Jae Park**. Contact moscalb@slu.edu for information on the OERF meeting.

The SLU orthodontic program has many guest speakers arranged for the Winter/Spring of 2018. All MSO students and faculty are encouraged to look at the schedule on our website

(it is updated periodically) and if they find a presentation they would like to attend, please let us know.

**Eustaquio (Tako) Araujo** 314/577-8186
tako.araujo@health.slu.edu Fax 314/268-5191

## UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI - KANSAS CITY



### UMKC Orthodontics Mourn the Passing of Mrs. Michele Edwards

Its with a heavy heart that we are the bearer of sad news. After a courageous 2+ year fight with cancer, our dear friend and colleague **Michele Edwards** passed away this October. For well over a decade, Michele has been our departmental administrator whose job was to have a steady hand on the day-to-day operations of the department. Michele was an integral element of the inner workings of the department, and was so much a part of the educational mission of UMKC. We will miss Michele's warmth, and her effort to make the UMKC family a place of caring and encouragement.

### GRADUATION OF SENIOR RESIDENTS

Congratulations to Drs. **Andrew Eichholz**, **Mark Greenburg** and **Kelcey Loveland** for completing their final competency examinations this December. Ten of our orthodontic instructors were in attendance to adjudicate the cases presented by our three senior residents. Congratulations are also in order to Dr. **Dan Ranjibar**, who was this year's recipient of the 2016 Instructor of the Year.

Our graduation dinner was held on December 15, 2016, at the Hallbrook Country Club. More than 70 family members and guests gathered to celebrate the accomplishments of our newest alums, as they prepare to embark on the next stage of their careers. All of our newest alums are heading off to private practices.





Left photo: Drs. Greenburg, Eichholz, Nickel (Program Director), Loveland, and Iwasaki (Chair). Right photo: Orthodontic Residents with Dr. Jim Osborne (clinic director).

Stepping into the role of senior residents are the Class of 2018, Drs. **Brad Chun**, **Kevin Kaiser** and **Alicia Griffin**. Moving up to second-year status are Drs. **Mary Becker**, **Kaylee Bergman** and **Laura Moore**. These three will soon be mentors to our incoming residents who will begin their tenure at UMKC as of July 1, 2018. Our new first-year residents (Class of 2020) will be Drs. **Burt Kawamoto**, **Kendall Tada** and **Collin Schlosser**.



Class of 2018: L-R Dr. Brad Chun (UMKC, 2016), Dr. Alicia Griffin (U. Texas, Houston, 2016) and Dr. Kevin Kaiser (UMKC, 2016)



Class of 2019: L-R Dr. Mary Becker (UTHSC-Baylor, 2017), Dr. Kaylee Bergman (UMKC, 2017) and Dr. Laura Moore (UMKC, 2017)

A HAPPY UMKC NEW YEAR TO ALL!

**Jeffrey C. Nickel** 816/235-2149
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# AAO and Associated Entities

## American Association of Orthodontists Foundation (AAOF)

**2018 AWARDS PROGRAM**
The deadline for 2018 Awards Program proposals was Friday, December 15 at 5:00 p.m. Central Standard Time.

- The Planning and Awards Review Committee (PARC) meets in late January to review all proposals.
- The AAOF BOD meets in late February to consider PARC's recommendations and to determine which proposals are funded.

**CONTINUED COMMITMENT TO THE SPECIALTY®.**
There are many ways for you to make a Continued Commitment to the Specialty® through the Foundation.

- One is to make a monthly commitment of $100 or more via a credit card authorization and become a member of the Century Club
- Another is to include the AAOF in your estate plans, by becoming a member of the Keystone Society

**STRATEGIC REOROGANIZATION/RESTRUCTURING.**
The process to determine a new direction and new future of the AAO Foundation is drawing to a close, with many significant and exciting changes to be incorporated and new offerings made to better serve you with your daily practice of orthodontics.

To cite just one example, the Mission of the AAOF has been expanded, i.e., "…to advance the orthodontic specialty by supporting quality education and research that leads to excellence in patient care."

**NAMED AWARDS**
There are now only six Named Awards opportunities available out of an original 31, and once these are gone, there will be no others, so if this way to "leave a legacy to orthodontics" resonates with you, please contact the AAOF for more information.

**SEARCH COMMITTEE**
After many years as the AAOF EVP, **Robert Hazel** will be retiring in 2018. A Search Committee has been formed and is in the process of locating his replacement.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**
See the AAO Foundation website at www.aaofoundation.net for more information, or contact **Robert Hazel**, AAOF EVP, at 800-424-2841, #ext. 546 (rhazel@aaortho.org), or me at your convenience.

**Ross Crist** 605/361-6016
ross@cw-ortho.com

## American Association of Orthodontists Political Action Committee (AAOPAC)

The AAOPAC had a very successful year in 2017. We raised $7,415.49 more than we did in 2016, which was a Presidential election year, no less. Not only did we raise more AAOPAC money in 2017, the AAOPAC Board's recommendation (with BOT approval) to not renew Republic Strategies' contract at the end of June, saved the AAO $48,000 in consultant fees for 2017. At the end of June, our 2017 contributions were trailing by almost $20,000 compared to the same time period in 2016. Not only did we make up that ground over the next six months (without a consultant), we actually beat 2016 contributions by $7,415.49 over the next six months. In the end, AAOPAC increased its contributions and decreased its costs, which is exactly what we want.

The number of AAOPAC contributors did drop by 67 when compared to AAOPAC contributors during the 2016 election year, and 44 when compared to the last non-election year, 2015. We are looking into this further, but for now I think that can be attributed to two things: (1) it was not an election year, and/or (2) attendance at most Constituency meetings was down this fall. In 2016, we were able to obtain a lot of small contributions at Constituency meetings, since there were more people at most of those meetings to solicit (especially the PCSO, the MSO and the GLAO meetings). Of course, this year, almost every Constituency meeting brought in more AAOPAC money, but that, likely, can be attributed to the AAOPAC Match programs, which increased the amount of many doctors' contributions. As far as increasing the amount of AAOPAC contributors in 2018, we have decided to offer free coffee to all contributors (regardless of giving level) during this year's Annual Session in Washington, D.C., which will be set up directly outside the doctor's lecture halls on Saturday and Sunday mornings.

Thanks to everyone for making sure **Sean Murphy** had time to present at Constituency/Component Board meetings and for sponsoring successful AAOPAC Match programs – you are the ones that are helping our AAOPAC move in the right direction. And here is to having an even bigger and better AAOPAC year in 2018.

In closing, I want to thank each and every one of you for your help in making 2017 a successful AAOPAC year. The MSO constituency had the highest contribution amount per member. See the graph below.

The AAOPAC will meet with the AAO Council on Governmental Affairs on Tuesday, May 8, 2018 during the AAO Annual Session in Washington, D.C. This year's AAO Political Advocacy Conference is Tuesday and Wednesday, May 8-9, 2018 in Washington, D.C.

**Contributions and Contributors**

| | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Total contributions** | **$274,219.00** | **$329,512.44** | **$336,927.93** |
| **Number of contributors** | **677** | **700** | **633** |

**How much raised each month for 2016 and 2017**

| Month | 2016 Total Contributions | 2017 Total Contributions |
|---|---|---|
| **January** | **750.00** | **16,456.66** |
| **February** | **3,775.00** | **30,265.66** |
| **March** | **13,900.00** | **17,142.66** |
| **April** | **34,197.66** | **18,673.66** |
| **May** | **18,914.66** | **20,872.66** |
| **June** | **83,791.16** | **32,529.66** |
| **July** | **87,460.66** | **83,430.66** |
| **August** | **31,218.66** | **25,988.66** |
| **September** | **22,458.66** | **30,741.66** |
| **October** | **18,464.66** | **24,705.33** |
| **November** | **11,731.66** | **25,561.33** |
| **December** | **2,849.66** | **10,559.33** |
| | **329,512.44** | **336,927.93** |

**How much each constituency raised in 2016 and 2017**

| Constituency | 2016 Total Contributions | 2017 Total Contributions | 2017 Active Membership | 2017 Contributions per Member |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| GLAO | 29,154.00 | 24,930.00 | 1062 | 23.47 |
| MASO | 19,276.00 | 22,168.00 | 934 | 23.73 |
| MSO | 47,681.00 | 55,107.00 | 1016 | 54.24 |
| NESO | 32,320.50 | 30,738.00 | 1357 | 22.65 |
| PCSO | 44,473.00 | 43,431.99 | 2148 | 20.21 |
| RMSO | 17,480.00 | 22,203.00 | 461 | 48.16 |
| SAO | 94,337.00 | 97,327.00 | 1964 | 49.56 |
| SWSO | 44,790.94 | 41,022.94 | 991 | 41.39 |
| | 329,512.44 | 336,927.93 | 9933 | 33.92 |

**Kevin Horner** 605/335-6680
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## AMERICAN BOARD OF ORTHODONTICS (ABO)

**Clinical Exam Update**:
The ABO conducted Clinical Examinations in February and September of 2017. A total of 222 examinees were certified or recertified during these examinations. A complete listing of newly certified or recertified orthodontists by constituency can be found on the ABO website. The next Clinical Examination is scheduled for February 2018 in St. Louis. Registration information for the examination is posted on the ABO website.

**ABO Clinical Examination Examiners:**
The ABO is interested in adding new examiners to our pool of potential Clinical Examination examiners. To be considered, the following requirements are necessary:

- Board certified orthodontist in good standing with the ABO.
- At least five years since your ABO Initial Certification.
- Involved in direct patient care and/or serve as clinical faculty in an accredited orthodontic program at least one day per week.
- Demonstrate contemporary knowledge of orthodontics.
- Comfortable with the utilization of technology.
- Familiar with the Clinical Examination criteria.
- Not have any conflicts of interest or self-promoting motives.
- Able to respect and maintain confidentiality.
- Commit to the following:
  - Participation as Examiner for Clinical Examinations
  - Examination preparation projects assigned as needed.
- Demonstrate excellent interpersonal skills, professionalism and flexible approach.
- Able to be impartial, objective and consistent in approach.
- Able to work as part of a team.
- Experience with tutoring or examining preferred.
- Submission of three references, along with current CV.

If you are interested in serving in this capacity, please contact your ABO constituency's director. Thank you!

**Written Examination Update:**
The ABO Written Examination was administered April 4-7, 2017, at Pearson-Vue Testing Centers throughout the United States and Canada to 391 examinees. The reliability of the examination was .92, with a 97 percent pass rate. The next Written Examination will be offered April 10-13, 2018. Registration for this exam is currently open.

**Educational Update:**

- In an effort to determine how best to meet the needs of our specialty, the ABO distributed a certification survey to certified and non-certified orthodontists, educators and residents in March 2017. In addition, the ABO has partnered with Castle Worldwide, a certification and licensure testing company to utilize their 30 years of experience in the science of psychometrics and training development to administer a practice analysis to define core competencies required of a newly certified orthodontist. As a foundation, the ABO also utilized the CODA Curriculum Standards and the AAO Clinical Practice Guidelines for Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics. In August 2017 a survey was distributed to AAO membership to assist in defining key skills and abilities of an orthodontist and to ensure that ABO examination methods bear a close relationship to job performance.
- The ABO Brand Standards Guide has been updated for offices with multi-orthodontist practices. If all doctors in the office are not board certified, the ABO seal and logo may not be placed on the home page, but should be placed on sub-pages that directly pertain to the specific board certified orthodontist.
- The ABO has included a link to the AAO Clinical Practice Guidelines on the ABO website for reference.

**Educators Symposium:**
The ABO welcomed orthodontic department chairs, program directors, faculty and ABO-appointed advocates at the 2017 ABO Educators Symposium, *Intelligently Adapting to Change* honoring Dr. **Thomas Cangialosi**. Approximately 100 individuals attended the meeting. Dr. **Richard Diemer**, Educational Consultant, was honored at a welcome reception for his 30+ years of service to the ABO, and as co-recipient for the 2018 Earl E. and Wilma S. Shepard Distinguished Service Award. AAO CODA Review Committee representatives were in attendance and provided a progress update. Additional agenda topics included actions taken from the 2016 symposium, ABO future challenges and dental specialties outreach/observations. Dr. **Jim Henderson** of Castle Worldwide, discussed the ABO practice analysis and validation survey. Discussion centering on scenario-based testing followed by an interactive workshop also occurred.

**The College:**
The ABO and the College (CDABO) continue to work together to support orthodontic programs in their preparation for the clinical exam thru our advocacy program. To-date, all 73 orthodontic programs have at least one advocate assigned to their school. In addition, the College offers courses for examinees to prepare for the clinical exam during constituency meetings and at Annual Session.

As a direct result from requests received from program residents, the ABO established the role of ABO Resident Representative. The identified resident will act as a liaison between their school residents and the ABO Advocate. We anticipate this new role will give the residents a louder voice by encouraging open

communication dialogue and enhance the quality of the advocate and resident relationship.

**Chinese Orthodontic Society:**
The ABO was honored to accept the Chinese Orthodontic Society's invitation to participate as program speakers during their September 2017 meeting in Shanghai, China. Drs. **Chun-Hsi Chung**, ABO President, Dr. **Nicholas Barone**, ABO Secretary/Treasurer and Dr. **Steven Dugoni**, ABO Immediate Past President, attended the meeting.



**GORP:**
The ABO attended the 2017 GORP meeting in Cleveland, Ohio. Dr. **Chun-Hsi Chung** gave a presentation to the residents on board certification and answered questions.

**ABO at 2017 AAO Annual Session:**
The ABO Directors for the 2017-2018 year are as follows:
Dr. **Chun-Hsi Chung**, President, MASO
Dr. **Larry Tadlock**, President-elect, SWSO

Dr. **Nicholas Barone**, Secretary/Treasurer, NESO
Dr. **Valmy Kulbersh**, Director, GLAO
Dr. **David Sabott**, Director, RMSO
Dr. **Patrick Foley**, Director, MSO
Dr. **Timothy Trulove**, Director, SAO
Dr. **Jae H. Park**, Director, PCSO
Dr. **Steven Dugoni**, Immediate Past President, PCSO

The AAO House of Delegates confirmed Dr. **Jae H. Park** as the ABO new director representing the Pacific Coast Society of Orthodontists.



The ABO is pleased to announce the following award recipients who will be recognized during the 2018 Annual Session meeting:

- Albert H. Ketcham Memorial Award: Dr. **Birte Melsen**
- Dale B. Wade Award of Excellence in Orthodontics: Dr. **Jeryl D. English**
- Earl E. and Wilma S. Shepard Distinguished Service Award: Dr. **Peter Greco** and Dr. **Richard Diemer**
- O.B. Vaughan Special Recognition Award: Dr. **Richard Kulbersh**

**Patrick Foley** 847/438-8899
foleyortho@aol.com

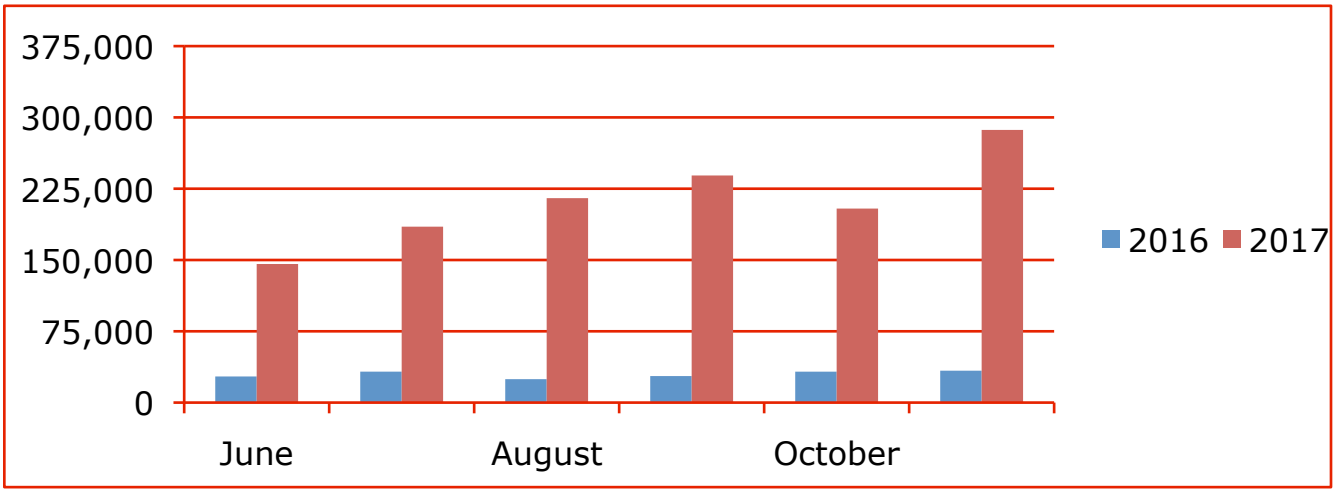
## COUNCIL ON COMMUNICATIONS (COC)

**Have you seen this new AAO video that's been viewed over 2.5 million times last week?!**

**Hello MSO Colleagues,**
A week ago, Buzzfeed shared a video on social media about leaving things to the professionals – and orthodontics was featured (see it here). This video, while humorous, was targeted at today's younger consumers online who may be tempted by do-it-yourself and unsupervised orthodontic care. As part of the AAO's Consumer Awareness Program (CAP), the Council On Communications (COC) has been taking a much stronger approach at educating the public on the importance of seeing a specialist.

**Is this all the CAP is doing? This video?**
Oh no, it certainly isn't. Your voices have been heard – the COC wants all of our members to know that we are aware and we do care about preserving our great specialty. We take our job seriously and we are passionate about succeeding. We have been working tirelessly over the last six months to push the CAP into a new, more effective direction. This included moving much of our efforts to online, digital platforms – where most consumers are getting their information from nowadays. It also included an overhaul of our creative materials. The main messaging? That orthodontists are the specialists; and it is imperative that you see an orthodontist in person. All campaigns drive traffic to the AAO's consumer website that is full of consumer education materials, as well as the "Find an Orthodontist feature."

**Is it working?**
While I can sit here and bore you with numbers – like the 125 million+ times the CAP ads have appeared on mobile devices over the last few months, or the 1800% increase in Facebook followers, or the millions of Google search listings for various orthodontics products CAP ads have appeared in recently – we actually thought it would be easiest to give you a visual, and let you be the judge. Below is a graph that shows the year-over-year difference in traffic to our consumer website – 2016 vs. 2017. Yes, that's a lot more traffic this year with our new direction. And that's a lot of consumers looking for information on AAO orthodontists.




**Are you done?**
No. We're nowhere near calling it a day. We're just getting started. We've got a lot of new creative and campaign ideas in the works for the CAP – and can't wait to let members know about them in the months to come.

**How can I help?**
Follow the AAO's consumer social media channels – and SHARE, SHARE, SHARE! (Links below) We encourage all members to help us preserve our great profession. And we welcome your ideas, too. If you have them – let me know, as your COC representative. I'm happy to pass them along!

- Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/AAOortho/
- Twitter: https://twitter.com/aaortho
- Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/aaoortho/

Thank you for your continued support.

Go with a Pro – a doctor from the AAO!

Your Midwestern Society of Orthodontists COC representative,

**Jackie Miller** 636/259-0171
smyldr@yahoo.com

## COUNCIL ON ORTHODONTIC EDUCATION (COE)

Our most recent meeting took place in October in St. Louis. BOT liaison, Dr. **Kendall Dillehay**, updated the Council on key BOT initiatives. The BOT approved formation of a Resident Champion Program for implementation and funding. This new program is designed to engage orthodontic residents and is a critical step toward maximizing AAO membership, loyalty and advocates. Each resident champion would receive an Annual Session travel stipend of $500 beginning in 2018 and further be recognized with a name badge ribbon. All training programs now have advocates.

Another BOT recommendation included a comprehensive review of all Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) for Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics Standards. This was conducted by a committee appointed by the previous AAO President, Dr. **Dwayne McCamish**, to make recommendations for changes to insure that superior educational standards are maintained among all accredited orthodontic training programs. The committee included three COE and three SOE members, one ABO representative and one BOT representative. Discussions of the pertinent standards have been held among educators including members of AAO's delegation to the 2017 ADEA Annual Session, SOE and CODA staff members. Some important revisions to the CODA Accreditation Standards are being proposed for review and comment as they relate to Standard 2 considering minimum FTE per resident for clinic coverage. Currently, the standard states:

> 2.2 The number and time commitment of faculty must be sufficient to provide full supervision of the clinical portion of the program.

Resident:faculty ratios have been the focus of the committee discussions. The optimal FTE faculty is currently under review. There is no doubt that some programs may have many FTE's that are able to educate as well as programs with fewer FTE's. However, there can be little doubt that the program that is adequately staffed will provide the resident a greater opportunity to receive a well-rounded education in preparation for entering private practice and providing the very best of patient care.

Other recent COE activities included the 2017 American Board of Orthodontics sponsored Educator's Symposium, *Intelligently Adapting to Change*, honoring Dr. **Thomas Cangialosi** which was held November 17-18, 2017, in St. Louis. The prevailing opinion among the educators is that board certification is necessary and increasing the percentage of board certified orthodontists is an imperative. The Board is considering revisions to the clinical examination as well as certificate renewal options. Scenario based testing is one several options under consideration.

Mark your calendars for 2018 **Rolf G. Behrent's** Educational Leadership Conference of the Society of Orthodontic Educators (SOE) on Friday, May 4, 2018, in Washington, D.C. Hope to see many of you there!

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## COUNCIL ON GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS (COGA)

The AAO Council on Governmental Affairs met at the offices of Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer, Washington, D.C. on September 12, 2017 and had breakfasts and dinners with legislators Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of the session. We also made many visits with legislators on the Hill both as a group and individually.

Our AAO legislative counsel **Sean Murphy** and Council discussed how Income Share Agreements with institutions where residency programs exist are becoming more popular for students with large debt load. Income Share Agreements are a replacement for borrowing in which a student agrees to repay a portion of post-graduation income for a set number of years in exchange for an institution waiving all or part of their tuition. The resident is thus able to get a reduced educational cost and then the resident pays them back with their income once they are out in practice. Purdue, of note, had funded $5 million for such a program. While the Council agrees that Income-Share Agreements have merit as an option for students, we recommended that this topic be addressed in cooperation with the Council on Education. Dr. **Daniel Keith** also indicated he would share this issue with the Council on New and Younger Members for their feedback and report back to COGA in the future. Dr. Keith is serving on COGA as a representative from CONYM and had excellent insight into the needs of this important group of our AAO membership. The Arnold and Porter team is also looking into whether there are any current bills addressing income-share agreements and if so, who is supporting them.

The AAO Legal Support Fund was reviewed and updates given by **Sean Murphy**. This $1 Million Fund was established by the 2015 House of Delegates for the purpose of supporting component organizations facing legislative, legal or regulatory issues that affect all orthodontists in the state. To date, nine states have been approved including Texas, Minnesota, Rhode Island, North Carolina, New Jersey, Iowa, Maine, Georgia, Ohio and others with an application in process. Approximately $200,000 has been applied for with about $71,000 given out to date. Specialty advertising and specialty recognition and issues with the American Board of Dental Specialists (ABDS) are the most common issues at the Boards of Dentistry. Currently, in Texas, court ruling allows not only the 9 ADA specialties to advertise as specialists, but also includes Oral Facial Pain, Dental Anesthesiology, Implantology and Oral Medicine. The most controversial group in the ABDS is Implantology, which according to ABDS guidelines only requires 10 weeks of education on the subject. This limitation of advertising came after several court rulings in Texas had left it that anyone in any area of dentistry could advertise as a specialist. Subsequently, the AAO felt this was a direct hit on the integrity of recognized specialties, thus the AAO issued an amicus brief through AAO legislative Counsel **Sean Murphy**. The AAO and other existing ADA recognized specialties had valuable input for limiting specialty advertising only to groups that had demonstrated appropriate education beyond dental school. The primary purpose of not allowing this broad and unrestricted advertising is protection of the public and not allowing misrepresented information to

cloud public perception and cause harm. Ultimately the Texas courts ruled to allow limitation to the additional four groups of the ABDS.

The Minnesota Association of Orthodontists and Texas Association have used the Legal Support Fund to have Assistant General Counsel **Sean Murphy** come to their states to address specialty recognition concerns with the Board of Dentistry. The concern is an issue of dentists in non -ADA recognized specialties that are requesting to be recognized as a specialist. Specialty advertising, as discussed previously, is a separate issue from specialty recognition for many state Board of Dentistry rulings. North Carolina has requested funds for an orthognathic surgery issue in order to work with the oral surgeons in their state when insurance initially approves the surgery and then denies payment when the patient is actually orthodontically ready for the surgery. Rhode Island has used funds to address dental assistant issues of delegated duties vs. non-delegated duties. Please contact Sean if you have state developments that legislatively and legally could benefit from AAO support. The application for funds is extremely fast and straightforward. Minnesota continues to work with Sean and we feel fortunate and are confident in our expert legal counsel regarding specialty recognition and the importance in preservation of specialties such as orthodontics which hold the distinguishing criteria of requiring 2-3 years of education beyond dental school.

The Council was encouraged to share information regarding the Legal Support Fund with their component organizations and request that they contact Sean at the AAO sooner rather than later if an issue arises. COGA also wishes to communicate to all states the importance of having AAO member orthodontists attend monthly State Board of Dentistry meetings since this is the route by which legislative changes would occur. Many issues are presented at the State Board of Dentistry meetings (specifically in the policy committee) that can be voted on and passed onto legislation without local orthodontists being aware until it has already been brought to their legislators. I can personally witness that often there is no turning back the clock once legislators have become involved.

COGA encourages each component and constituent organization and each individual AAO member to stay vigilant and abreast of legislative and legal concerns to which the AAO could corroborate and assist with.

The Arnold and Porter Team presented the following: A review of the current political landscape, including an in-depth look at the 2018 Senate races; an update regarding health, education and tax policy and the current outlook for each; congressional agenda for the remainder of the year; an update on AAO's 2017 policy priorities, including AAO healthcare and education "wins"; current status of the RAISE ACT- 20 cosponsors; Student Loan Refinancing and Recalculation (SLRR) Act This Bill contains new language this year to allow for borrowers in medical and dental residencies to defer payments until the completion of their programs. The AAO recently spearheaded an effort, which involved 14 other dental groups who all endorsed the proposed legislation.

During our three days in D.C. we were lobbying heavily for the Student Loan Refinancing and Recalculation Act brought forward by the AAO and soon to be introduced in the House of Representatives by Representatives Garamendi and Fitzpatrick. While we were in D.C., a letter was written by the AAO and signed by the AAO along with 14 other dental groups and was addressed to the above representatives highlighting why our groups endorse the legislation. The Bill would seek to provide parity in the ability to refinance student loans and ensures the federal government does not profit from student borrowers.
Specifically, the measure would:

- Allow borrowers to refinance their student loan interest rates to the 10-year Treasury note rate, plus one percent, throughout the lifetime of the loan.
- Eliminate origination fees and instead set future student loan interest rates at the 10-year Treasury note rate, plus one percent.
- Delay student loan interest rate accrual for many low- and middle-income borrowers while they are in school.
- Allow for borrowers in medical or dental residencies to defer payments until the completion of their programs.

The letter educated the legislators again concerning these facts: that dental and dental specialty graduates have some of the highest average debt loads of any borrowers and that we feel strongly that these notable changes to the federal student loan program will allow all student borrowers to more efficiently pay back their loans. In addition, these changes would allow students and new graduates the ability to make other important investments in their careers and futures—like starting their own business or purchasing a home. We explained that such changes are essential to providing a fair and equitable loan system for future borrowers and also to jumpstart the U.S. economy. Facts are that nearly 1 in 3 Americans with student loans in repayment status are at least a month behind on their payments; according to the GAO, the US Government is on target to produce $66 billion dollars in profit from student loans disbursed between 2007 and 2012; at least 40 million Americans are burdened by student loan debt, so that is 40 million Americans who are faced with an obstacle to building successful futures and contributing to the American economy.

The Student Loan Refinancing and Recalculation Act has strong bipartisan support in the 115$^{th}$ Congress. As we visited our legislators, we found ourselves often talking with young staff members who have significant student loan debt themselves and they can appreciate and bring this plan to light. We indicate that we have discussions of the average orthodontic resident graduating with $365,000 debt and two married doctors that could have close to a million dollars to repay. We made sure that our legislators and staffers knew that orthodontic residents pay for their residency programs and are not making an income while in graduate training unlike other medical professionals. Most importantly we impressed that the federal government should not profit from student

borrowers. Our 14 other co-sponsors with the AAO include the ADA, Academy of General Dentistry, Academy of Pediatric Dentistry, Academy of Periodontists, Association of Endodontists, Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons, Association of Public Health Dentistry, Association of Women Dentists, American Dental Education Association, Society of Dentist Anesthesiologists, American Student Dental Association, National Dental Association, and the Student National Dental Association.

COGA set up an initiative to combine with other councils to find a realistic approach to add to student loan debt discussions where COGA and CONYM can work with the Council on Education to help with ideas and plans. We know this issue will remain paramount for our New and Younger members for years ahead. Helpful to this initiative was a recent study, the *Student Loan/College Affordability Support Study.* This examined the Democratic and Republican support for the six major student loan and college affordability initiatives. Democrats supported 4.77 of the 6 initiatives while Republicans supported lowering student loan interest rates and giving tax credits, which accounted for 1.3 of 6 initiatives. The study showed that concerning Pell Grant increases, Republicans felt every time Federal Pell Grants were upped, universities increased tuition by the same amount, so philosophically the majority do not support Pell Grant increases. Democrats do wish to expand Pell Grants, which are at maximum of $6000 currently.

COGA continued to work diligently during our visits with hill staffers and legislators to gain cosponsors on the RAISE ACT to raise FSA caps from current $2600 to $5000; to roll over the balance indefinitely and to add $500 per dependent for families with over 2 dependents. The AAO fortunately was successful and had worked hard for RAISE and for Medical Device Tax repeal and other AAO issues placed into the Repeal and Replace Bills from this legislative session. But, of course, when Repeal and Replace failed, so did our part of the bill. So again we have to reintroduce and basically start over with securing signatures and new bill numbers. We are getting those cosponsors again and we will continue to push forward on these important issues for our AAO members.

Dr. **Todd Curtis** is an AAO member from Indiana who is running for Congress. The AAO will be meeting with Dr. Curtis and opening a mutual line of communication with him. Dr. Callahan, AAO Trustee from NESO and four other orthodontists had a breakfast in New York City with their home legislators immediately following our COGA meeting. If you have a chance to do these events or they come up in your district, please check on how the AAO can support and how we can improve AAO presence at such events. Contact Sean for assistance on how to make a difference in your state legislative climate.

During the time that COGA was meeting in D.C. in September, there was still great momentum for Reconciliation legislation on the Affordable Care Act. The AAO had multiple Healthcare bills under review. On March 6, the House had introduced the American Healthcare Act (AHCA) and it passed the House 217 to 213 on May 4. The House bill was meant to prioritize the Medicaid program for per capita cap system and was said to have saved $229 billion while increasing the number of uninsured people to 51 million.

Then on June 26, the Senate released the Better Care Reconciliation Act (BCRA). AAO priorities in both the AHCA and BCRA were to repeal medical device tax law; repeal the cap on annual contributions to FSA's; increase the contribution limit to HSA's; delay implementation of the Cadillac Tax; and repeal the net investment tax. Overall these priorities were not controversial and had major bipartisan support. What ensued was a "Healthcare Tug of War" and Reconciliation Legislation deadlines ran out the end of September.

We also monitor the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) and note that reauthorization of the program expired in 2017 with both the ADA and Academy of Pediatric Dentists concerned that this is putting in jeopardy the oral health of 9 million children and pregnant women enrolled in the program. With healthcare costs rising, CHIP provides a safety net for low-income families in every state. The AAO advocates for and appreciates the need for preventive and primary oral health care for children no matter what their ability to pay is.

The American Dental Association with AAO support, kept pressure on legislators to amend the McCarran Ferguson Act and specifically to restore application of federal antitrust laws to the business of health insurance, including dental insurance. Current law exempts the business of insurance. If the amendment passed, collaboration could be met to cross state lines for insurance and raise hope for better cooperation and thus reduction in premiums. Current law states that the business of insurance is left up to the extent that state law regulates it.

On December 20, the House of Representatives and the Senate passed the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act. This legislation revamps the U.S. tax code for the fist time in over 30 years. I will review parts of this relevant to our practices with importance stressed for each AAO member to review this with their tax accountant. Each individual's bottom line tax benefit is dependent on multiple factors including geographic location, property ownership and family structure. Though there are many positive aspects of the tax bill, we are aware that there may also be unintended policy outcomes from this legislation.

- Improve Section 179 deductions by allowing the business to immediately expense some of the costs of qualifying property such as off-the-shelf computer software and some real property. Previously $500,000 could be expensed unless more than $2 million in property is bought. Under the new tax bill, as much as $1 million could be expensed and expensing would be expanded to include furniture, nonresidential roofs, heating and air conditioning systems and fire and alarm systems.

- Student Loan interest deduction would be retained at its current level. The bill also maintains current tax law in that graduate students would not have to pay a tax on the tuition they receive as income from educational institutions. Previous versions of the bill had proposed a tax on that income.

- This Bill issues the first ever deduction for all pass-through entities, including S Corporations and sole proprietorships. The deduction is extended to certain professional service businesses, including dental practices. Limitations of the law would allow the deduction to only fully be available for service businesses with annual incomes of $157,500 or less for individual filers or $315,000 for joint/married filers and would phase out for incomes greater than those thresholds.

Dr. **Lisa Howard** nominated Dr. **Dean Jensen** and Dr. **Frank Beglin** nominated Dr. **Doug Harte** to serve as Council Chair for the term beginning May 7, 2018. Drs. Jensen and Harte both accepted their nomination. Votes were taken and given to Dr. Callahan to deliver to the next Board of Trustees meeting.

COGA's next meeting, which was planned to be a joint meeting with AAOPAC, was scheduled for February 26-28, 2018. However, due to the close time proximity of the AAO Annual session and the Professional Advocacy Conference scheduled directly following the session, the February meeting was cancelled. It is unknown to date if a formal COGA meeting will be possible during the Annual Session/advocacy schedule due to the packed event schedule. During the Advocacy Conference, COGA is planning a Tuesday evening invitation to attendees for an event with our AAO professional staff lobbyists and a known name Senate or House member. AAO will be paying for the Tuesday evening hotel and meals for those staying for Wednesday Hill visits. Our hope is to allow triple the number of Advocacy attendees to join their legislators by increasing our typical 100 members to 300+ AAO members.

The 2018 Professional Advocacy Conference will take place immediately following the AAO Annual Session in Washington, DC, with the Conference beginning Tuesday afternoon May 8 to include training, followed by a dinner/keynote speaker that evening and ending Wednesday, May 9 after scheduled Capitol Hill visits. Thank you to many enthusiastic MSO members who have volunteered and are taking precious time away from home and office to stay, train and make a difference on the Hill. Legislators want to hear from their home state and hometown orthodontists. I have one immensely important homework assignment for you all…. Come prepared with your personal stories of how tax burdens, healthcare reforms, student loan indebtedness or cumbersome governmental issues have impacted you, your employees and your practice!

Thank you for allowing me to serve you through COGA. The honor is entirely mine. After serving 5 ½ years on this important AAO Council, I clearly see how much more there is to do legislatively to support our AAO members. Yet, I see how tremendously far we have come to make the AAO known to our U.S. Congressional members, their hard working staffers and all *Powers to Be* on Capitol Hill. The AAO is highly respected and more often than we realize, our lead is followed.

MSO…Let's "strut our stuff" from the grassroots up while in D.C., May 2018!

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## Council on New and Younger Members (CONYM)

The end of 2017 brings a close to a very active second half of the year for the Council on New and Younger Members (CONYM). In the spring of 2017, CONYM sponsored a survey that was disseminated to all new and younger members (NYMs) within the association to ascertain determinants as to whether a NYM attends the AAO's Annual Session. It is our Council's belief that attendance at the Annual Session is critical for NYMs, particularly during their first few years of membership, to see the association in action and sense the excitement that abounds at this meeting with the thought that this will, in turn, lead to a NYM being interested in association involvement and meeting attendance moving forward. From the results of our survey, two primary hindrances were noted regarding NYM attendance at the Annual Session: travel-related expenses and time away from practice life.

As part of the August 2017 AAO Board of Trustee's (BOT) meeting, CONYM submitted several recommendations to address the survey results. Those recommendations included adding more affordable hotel options to the traditional Annual Session offerings and the creation of a "weekend registration" option, which would allow a member to attend the Annual Session on the weekend and pay a reduced registration fee.

The BOT unanimously approved the additional, more affordable lodging recommendation and AAO staff has already secured a number of hotels in which 50% of the rooms will be reserved for NYMs and 50% will be available for the membership at-large. AAO transportation will not be available from these locations; however, they are all within walking distance of the convention center. From the recommendation of a weekend registration option, the BOT was openly receptive to exploring both the length and time of the Annual Session as well as various registration options. An "Annual Session Task Force" was created to study these issues with a report due back in 2018.

With all the activity in Washington these days regarding both healthcare and tax reform, CONYM is taking an active role in the conversation as a few subsets of the proposed tax bills involve areas pertinent to NYMs. One of the bills being discussed and advocated for by both the Council on Government Affairs (COGA) and the AAO's legislative arm, Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer, and sponsored by Congressman **John Garamendi** (D-CA) with the urging of AAO President Dr. **Nahid Maleki**, is the Student Loan Refinancing & Recalculating Act. This has several provisions that would directly affect our young members including student loan interest not accruing during residency and the ability to refinance student loans at the current 10 Year Treasury Note plus 1%. Both would have significantly positive effects on the financial situation for our current residents and recent graduates. With the debt that our current graduates are completing residency with, the efforts of the AAO and our lobbying arm have been strong and CONYM is very appreciative of this. To this end, CONYM is in contact with our NYMs throughout the

association and is urging their participation of this lobbying effort through direct contact with their respective state congressional delegations in urging the importance of support for bills such as this.

At the 2018 Annual Session in Washington D.C., CONYM will be sponsoring two events: The New Orthodontist and Resident Conference as well as the Town Hall. The New Orthodontist & Resident Conference will be headlined by **Brad Kucharo**, CFA, CFP, from The McGill & Hill Group. Mr. Kucharo's lecture will be entitled *Planning Your Professional Future* which will offer young doctors the information needed to avoid costly financial mistakes and achieve financial success, including establishing proper business format, minimizing tax burdens, maximizing tax deductions, retirement saving strategies to get started and stay on track, and loan repayment options. In addition to this lecture, there will be a multitude of roundtables with topics including starting a practice, managing your orthodontic team, growing your practice through social media, DSO opportunities, the legal implications of practice ownership, implementing cutting edge technology in the new practice and working with an accountant and attorney. This roundtable format was extremely popular at last year's event and we are looking forward to even greater attendance this year.

With the Town Hall event, CONYM has chosen to reformat this event into a *Luncheon with Leadership* in which lunch will be provided to all attendees and a member of CONYM and the BOT will be positioned at each roundtable to engage in more intimate discussions with our members informing them of the ongoing efforts of AAO governance to provide additional member value as well as in answering any questions that our members may have. Please remember that, although this is a CONYM-sponsored event, this event is open to all AAO members. In addition, CONYM members also will be present at the 2018 Winter Meeting in Scottsdale, Arizona, and will be holding a gathering for NYMs during the meeting's reception to further engage these members.

According to association data, an AAO member is most likely to drop their membership between their third and fourth year out of practice. Knowing this, CONYM has become involved in the process of aiding in member retention through member outreach. In November 2017, over 200 NYMs that had not renewed their membership were directly (via telephone or email) contacted by their respective CONYM constituent representative to discuss renewal. During this process, many of our Council members had engaging conversations with these individuals to discuss the association's efforts on behalf of NYMs as well as to visit about any issues that our membership base may have that is impeding them from renewing.

At the 2017 House of Delegates in San Diego, a resolution was passed recommending that each constituency place a NYM on their delegation. We are very pleased to announce that, as of this date, each delegation has at least one NYM on their team serving as either a delegate or alternate delegate. The origin of this resolution can be traced to the efforts of our MSO delegation team. Great work everyone!

In November 2017, CONYM conducted its second podcast recorded at AAO Headquarters in St. Louis. This podcast covered topics ranging from the student advocacy efforts in Washington to the programs and issues being added and addressed throughout the association for the benefit of the NYM. We had great feedback from our members following our initial Summer 2017 podcast regarding interest in further use of this medium for communication and we look forward to continuing to record these member updates periodically throughout the coming years.

That wraps up a very active 2017 for the AAO's Council on New and Younger Members and we expect even more involvement and activity from our council as we move into 2018.

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## COUNCIL ON ORTHODONTIC PRACTICE (COOP)

The Council met at the AAO Central Office in St. Louis on October 28, 2017 for its annual face-to-face meeting.

The 2018 Practice Transition Seminar is scheduled for Friday, May 4 in the Washington Convention Center in conjunction with the AAO Annual Session in Washington, DC. Confirmed speakers will include: Mr. **Ken Alexander** – *Understanding Orthodontic Transitions: Value, Pitfalls and Associations*; DSO Panel – panelists will comprise representatives from Pacific Dental Services and Smile Brands, as well as industry consultant Mr. **Roger Hill**, Mr. **Doug Copple** and Ms. **Shannon Patterson** – compensation expectations for junior and senior doctors (title TBD); and Dr. **Laurance Jerrold** – *C.A.D.E.T. (Coverage Agreements for Death/Disability/Displacement in Emergency Transitions).*

The Practice Opportunities & Careers (POC) service continues to match residents and new & younger members with practices for sale and other employment opportunities, and successful matches were 50% higher in 2017 compared to 2016.

AAO Career Fairs were conducted at the Annual Session on April 23-24 and a Virtual Career Fair on October 28. The 2018 Orthodontic Career Fair is scheduled for May 6, and is part of a full-day track for residents and new and younger members, and will be immediately preceded by the New Orthodontist and Resident Conference and followed by the Orthodontic Residents' Reception.

Participation totals in the Resident Vitals program for the 2016-17 and 2017-18 academic year have increased from 2015-16. This is an extremely important program that provides information about the AAO and the benefits of membership to orthodontic residents. MSO members involved with orthodontic programs with an interest in helping with the presentations are invited to speak to **Brandon Hackworth** or **Lauren Snowden**.

A COOP committee is identifying existing business resources available to recent graduates and other members. Once completed, this information will be combined with a White Paper being written by a Task Force incorporating the recommendations received from the Council on Orthodontic Health Care.

During 2017-2018, a series of 16 Webinars are scheduled for doctors and/or staff. Lectures include clinical and practice management topics. In addition, six Business of Orthodontics webinars will be given. Watch for email notifications to register.

If you have any questions, concerns, or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me. I wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

**D. Spencer Pope** 708/799-0060

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## COUNCIL ON SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS (COSA)

The Council on Scientific Affairs (COSA) met via videoconference on January 5, 2018. COSA reviewed 24 applications for the Hellman, Sicher and Graber Awards. The winners will present their lectures during Annual Session. The following are the 2018 AAO Research Awards winners:

- Milo Hellman Research Award to Dr. **Inna Sydorak** from the University of Michigan for research titled: *Microsphere controlled drug delivery for local control of tooth movement*

- Harry Sicher Research Award to Dr. **Sudha Gudhimella** from University of Kentucky for research titled: *A rodent model using skeletal anchorage and low forces for orthodontic tooth movement*

- Thomas M. Graber Awards of Special Merit to:

  Dr. **Mina Katchooi** from the University of Washington for research titled: *The effect of supplemental vibration on orthodontic treatment with aligners: a randomized trial*

  Dr. **Bhavendrasinh Sayania** from the University of Pennsylvania for research titled: *Mesenchymal stem cell (MSC) spheroid constructs containing microfluidic BMP2-PLGA microcapsules in bone tissue engineering*

  Dr. **Kristina Marie Christoph** from Texas A&M University for research titled: *Effects of transverse, bodily movements of maxillary premolars on the surrounding hard tissue*

  Dr. **Angela Lu** from the University of Illinois-Chicago for research titled: *Orthodontic tooth movement in MicroRNA-29 sponge transgenic mice*

The 2019 Hellman, Sicher, Graber online application will be available on March 15, 2018. The deadline to apply is October 1, 2018.

COSA accepted 28 Oral Research applications, 386 E-Poster applications and 47 Table Clinic applications to be presented at the 2018 AAO Annual Session. There will be no hard copies of Posterboards displayed at Annual Session. E-Posters will be available for viewing during the Annual Session and for two months after Annual Session on the AAO website.

COSA is accepting applications for the 2018 Charley Schultz Resident Scholar Award program to be held at the 2018 AAO Annual Session. The online application can be found on the AAO website. The deadline to apply for this program is February 15, 2018.

COSA continues to review published evidence based orthodontic research. Appropriate

article citations are being added to the Evidence Based Orthodontic Research Resource Center on a regular basis. The Evidence Based Orthodontic Research Resource Center is on the AAO Library webpage. Also in the resource center area of the AAO Library webpage is the CBCT Resource Center and the Bisphosphonate Resource Center.

COSA has been asked by various AAO groups to review and propose changes to several documents. In September 2017, the AAO Glossary-SNODENT Task Force asked COSA to review the AAO Glossary and to revise, delete and add definitions. In November 2017, the CODA Review Committee asked COSA to review, consult on and recommend imperative competencies for inclusion in the CODA Accreditation Standards for Advanced Specialty Education Programs in Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics. In December 2017, the AAOIC Claims Committee asked COSA to review the revised AAO Bisphosphonate Informed Consent Form.

COSA's next meeting is on Friday, May 4, 2018 prior to the start of Annual Session. During the Annual Session, COSA members will be involved with judging the Charley Schultz Resident Scholar Award presentations, judging the Table Clinics and awarding the Joseph E. Johnson Table Clinic Award and moderating the Hellman, Sicher, Graber Award lectures and the Oral Research presentations.

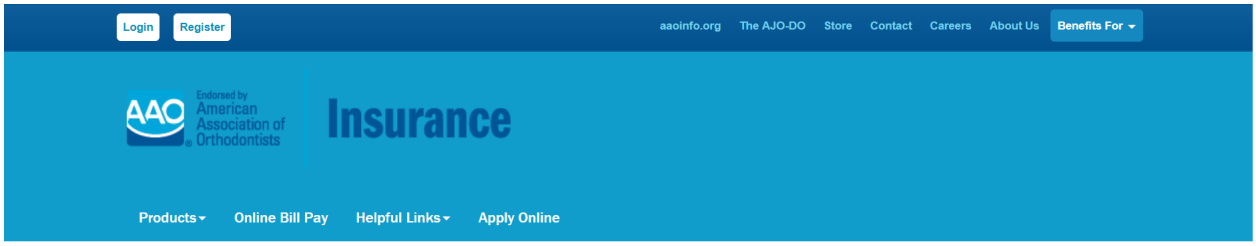
COSA meets every January by videoconference. The next videoconference meeting is scheduled for January 4, 2019.

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## COMMITTEE ON INSURANCE

Happy New Year to all of my MSO colleagues. This past year the Committee on Insurance (COI) has been busy looking at all of the AAO Endorsed Insurance products to be sure that they remain competitive in the marketplace. COI has listened to reports from our broker partner, Pearl Insurance Associates, that the overall program growth is flat.

The committee challenged Pearl to innovate and create new marketing strategies to reach our members with information on these insurance programs that can likely benefit member orthodontists in their personal and professional lives. COI believes that these endorsed programs provide great value to your AAO membership. Are you aware that when you are insured under an AAO endorsed program that you have an advocate representing your interests? Please keep an eye out for these new offerings over all formats of media. If you are an AAO endorsed program insured, thank you. If you are not, please take a moment to look at the programs that AAO endorses and see if they fit into your life and practice style. You may have notice that an 'endorsed insurance' tab has been added to the AAO homepage for your convenience. It is listed under the Practice Management tab. (http://www.aao-insurance.com/)




One endorsed product to spotlight is the cyber liability coverage offered to protect your office from data breaches. Over the past 12 months there have been some high profile cyber breaches occurring at large seemingly impenetrable companies such as Equifax, Verizon and Uber. Small businesses like ours also can be breached resulting in sensitive patient data being exposed. Cyber liability coverage can help mitigate any type of computer breach while protecting your bottom line.

As always, please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

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## COMMITTEE ON TECHNOLOGY

**Online Reporting Tool for Non-Orthodontists Advertising as Orthodontists**
The AAO recently released an easy-to-use online reporting tool that allows members to report non-orthodontists advertising as orthodontists.

- Reported submissions will be reviewed by the AAO Legal Department. Letters will be sent to the non-orthodontists as deemed appropriate by state law.
- Evidence must be provided that the non-orthodontist is advertising with the word "orthodontIST" (as opposed to using the word "orthodontICS" which is permissible in certain jurisdictions)
- Of course, the misrepresentation of dental credentials is an issue that usually falls under the purview of state dental boards and where appropriate, such misrepresentations should require their action.
- The tool can be found at https://www.aaoinfo.org/aao/non-orthodontist-reporting

**TechTalk Blog**
CTECH maintains a technology blog at http://aaotechblog.com/ to discuss current issues utilizing technology in orthodontic practice. Blog topics include 3D printing, HIPAA compliance, digital orthodontics, social media, digital security, and many other topics. Member submissions are welcome!

**AAO Annual Session**
At the AAO Annual Session this year in Washington, D.C., there will be two Tech Talk branded tracks dealing with technology in orthodontics. This first session will be on Sunday morning, May 6, and the second session will be on Tuesday morning, May 8. Topics will include customized appliances, digital workflow, Generation Z, managing IT expenses, apps for the orthodontic practice and CBCT imaging.

Please feel free to reach out if there are any technology issues that would be beneficial for our committee to discuss.

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