



Midwestern Society of Orthodontists

Electronic Newsletter Articles January 2016

A compilation of the news articles that were posted on the MSO web site in January 2016.

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PRESIDENT'S GREETINGS

The Midwestern Society of Orthodontists Board of Directors and Delegates will be making their way to “The City of the Broad Shoulders” for our 2016 Ad Interim meeting Friday, March 11. The goal is to conduct our association business and showcase the Swissotel in downtown Chicago, which is also the location of our Annual Session, November 4-5, 2016. In appreciation, Chicago has decided to dye the Chicago River green and have a rather large parade/party to celebrate the MSO being in town for our Ad Interim – nothing to do with St. Patrick’s Day, I’m sure!



The last year has been a busy one with the planning committee working very hard with Burmeister and Associates to organize our Annual Session (November 4-5) and ensure “smooth sailing” into the next year. Indeed, we have several important MSO issues that require our attention/action as we move forward.

First and foremost, I would like to address the Trustee selection process in which our current MSO Trustee, Dr. **Brent Larson** progresses up the officer ladder to require a replacement. Last summer/fall a Trustee Selection Committee, chaired by Dr. **John Kanyusik**, interviewed five incredibly well-qualified candidates. Every one of those individuals has shown the highest level of dedication to the association. The selection committee has put forward Dr. **Michael Durbin** as the MSO’s trustee candidate to be slated by the MSO Nominating Committee to present to the membership at our November 5 MSO Annual Business Meeting. The MSO-approved trustee nominee will be presented to the AAO for their acceptance. All candidates would have been superb trustees and I would like to express a heartfelt thank you to each who offered to serve. We are very fortunate that MSO has a very deep bench of talent.

The MSO Delegation to the AAO 2016 House of Delegates also will share in deliberations with the MSO Board during our Ad Interim Board Meeting. We welcome MSO member input on your suggestions to represent you at the upcoming AAO House of Delegates held during the 2016 AAO Annual Session in Orlando, Florida.

We offer a special thanks to Dr. **Spencer Pope** of Flossmoor, Illinois, who is joining the MSO delegation to serve as vice-chair. Spencer is a past president of the Illinois Society of Orthodontists, our Illinois Director to the MSO, currently a member on COOP, helped set up the pilot DOS program in Illinois and has extensive experience within the Chicago Dental Society.

Lastly, I would like to genuinely thank all who serve within the MSO. Interacting with these outstanding individuals over the last eight years has been one of the best

experiences of my life. These individuals are what make the MSO a leader amongst leaders. I am honored to be part of this organization.

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MSO Components

IOWA

Christopher Holahan, President

David Meyer, President-Elect

Judith Demro, Vice President

Clayton Parks, Secretary/ Treasurer

The annual meeting of the Iowa Society of Orthodontists was held September 27-28, 2015, at Hotel Vetro in Iowa City. Multiple speakers discussed various updates on orthodontic treatment modalities, including Dr. **Bill Kottemann** from Minneapolis, Dr. **James Vaden** from Tennessee and Dr. **Laurel Martin** from Longmont, Colorado.

The Iowa Dental Association (IDA) Council on Legislation met in July and recommended that the IDA Board retain the “Dental Patient Protection Act” (DPPA) features as the IDA’s legislative priorities recognizing that the current legislative leadership makes it almost impossible to gain dental patient protections against the wishes of the Iowa insurance industry. In August, the IDA Board voted to retain the DPPA features which include dental patient rights to choose their dentist, assignment of dental insurance benefits, coordination of benefit protections and full external review of denied dental claims protections. The IDA continues to look for every opportunity to pursue each of these priorities. Additionally, the IDA Board voted to adopt another recommendation of the Council to collaborate with the Iowa Dental Board to establish an appropriate level of oversight of “Dental Service Organizations” to assure continued dental patient protections currently required of all licensed Iowa dentists.

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ILLINOIS

Michael Erhart, President
Betsy Ulrich, President-Elect
Randy Wright, Vice-President
Doug Head, Secretary-Treasurer

MSO doctors and staff are invited to participate in ISO's upcoming lectures. Go to www.isortho.org/Meetings.aspx for the latest information and registration details.

Dr. **Anthony Maoloni** was recognized at the September 21 meeting for his over 20 years of service as the Chicago Dental Society Liaison on the ISO Board. Dr. **Mike Durbin** has been appointed to serve as the new ISO CDS Trustee Liaison.

At the November 16 meeting, MSO President Dr. **Ara Goshgarian** presented Dr. **Randy Wright** a plaque for his eight years of service and leadership as Chair of the MSO Membership, Ethics and Judicial Concerns Committee. ISDS President Dr. **Brad Barnes** addressed the attending members at the meeting's luncheon. MSO's representative to the AAOF, Dr. **Steve Roehm**, accepted a donation from the ISO to the AAOF at the luncheon meeting.

Dr. **Betsy Ulrich** will be representing ISO at the AAO President-Elect's Conference in February in Washington, D.C.

ISO will be presenting Dr. **Chuck Greene** of the University of Illinois - Chicago with the ISO Merit Award on April 4.

Go to ISO's News Section at www.isortho.org/News.aspx for the latest photos and current events or contact **Kristi Burmeister** at the ISO toll-free number of 888-447-6734.

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MANITOBA

Constantine Athanasopoulos, President
Roger Moir, Secretary/Treasurer

Some of the recent highlights occurring in the Manitoba Orthodontic Society (MOS) are as follows:

- The Fall Business Meeting of the MOS occurred on Friday, November 20, 2015 at the Delta Winnipeg.
- We combined the business meeting with a Doctor/Staff lecture, *Future Proof Your Orthodontic Practice*, presented by Dr. **Lou Shuman** and **Ian McNickle**. The meeting was sponsored by GAC. We had the largest registered attendance for a MOS meeting with just over 50 participants for the all-day event.



L-R: Don Grant (GAC), Dr. Tim Dumore, Ian McNickle (WEO Media), Dr. Lou Shuman, Ian Still (GAC territory manager Canada/Northeastern US), Dr. Conny Athanasopoulos

- The Canadian Association of Orthodontics (CAO) 2016 Annual Session will be held in Chalettetown, PEI from September 15-17, 2016.

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Minnesota

David Resch, President

Ronald Snyder, President-elect

Heather Carr, Vice President

Nellie Kim-Weroha, Secretary/Treasurer

Dr. **David Resch** will be presiding over the 2016 MAO Annual Winter Meeting on January 8, 2016, at the Minneapolis Marriott City Center Hotel. Drs. **Thomas Southard** and



Steven Marshall from University of Iowa Department of Orthodontics will be presenting jointly to doctors and staff on various clinical topics.

The MAO Executive Board (see at left) met year

round to continue planning for meetings and addressing important issues that affect our fellow members. Please contact our Executive Secretary, **Denise Schouweiler**, at denise.schouweiler@getasmile.com with any questions or concerns and be sure to check out the new website mnortho.org for membership information and updates on upcoming events and news.

MAO helped sponsor the MSO Annual Session in Rochester, Minnesota on October 9-10, 2015. MSO Immediate Past President, Dr. **Deborah Lien** and the planning committee, put together an informative program with presentations given by physicians, researchers and other healthcare specialists from the Mayo Clinic and the University of Minnesota on pertinent healthcare topics on the first day. Dr. **Brent Larson** gave an interactive presentation for the doctors on *Success, Happiness and Why Treatment Planning Matters*, while **Amy Kirsch** gave a fun and informative presentation to the staff. We were proud of Dr. **John Kanyusik** who received the 2015 MSO Earl E. Shepard Distinguished Service Award.

The MAO proudly supports the Minnesota Mission of Mercy (MnMOM). It was held at the Duluth Entertainment Convention Center in July and there were over 1,400 patient visits and the 1,000 volunteers provided almost \$1 Million in patient care. We would like to thank all the people who volunteered and hope to see you July 22-23, 2016, at the next MnMOM to be held at Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota.

The *Smiles Change Lives*® program has continued to be strong in Minnesota thanks to all the generous providers who have signed up. We are proud to say about half the orthodontists in the state are participants and we thank each of you for your kind

support of kids that benefit from the program. If you would like to be a provider, please go to smileschangelives.org or call 888-900-3554 to sign up. Thank you to Dr. **Steve Litton** for all his time and efforts to growing this program in Minnesota.

Dr. **Steve Litton** currently is serving as president of the Minnesota Dental Foundation and the Foundation has launched a pilot program with *Smiles Change Lives*® called Minnesota's Heroes Orthodontic Program. The mission is to provide free orthodontic treatment for kids and spouses of the Gold Star Families (immediate family members of those killed in Iraq/Afghanistan, post 9/11) who are considered "in need" of orthodontic care. There will be a review and selection process using SCL forms and periodic evaluations. It hopes to match the families in need with an orthodontist near their homes, and we encourage orthodontists, if contacted, to consider providing orthodontic care to these kids. The initial idea for this program came from Drs. **Doug Jonak** and **Jim Miller**. Please contact Jim at goldenvetortho@gmail.com for questions about the program.

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Missouri

Kevin Austin, President

Neil Kanning, President-Elect

Jeffrey Cavanaugh, Secretary/Treasurer

The last business meeting was October 9, 2015 in Rochester, Minnesota, during the Midwestern Society's Annual Session.

Missouri nominated Dr. **Jackie Miller** and she was selected to receive the 2016 AAO Humanitarian Award from the AAO. Congratulations to Jackie!!

AAO has set up a state legal fund with money available for states to use to promote or fight state legislation that is detrimental to orthodontists. Please check with Missouri president, Dr. **Neil Kanning** or Dr. **Mark Dake**, Missouri director, if you feel there is an issue that needs to be addressed in Missouri.

The Consumer Awareness Program has set aside money for matching grants for a component to use in a marketing campaign. Please check with the AAO or Dr. Kanning for details.

SoFi is a AAO-endorsed company that consolidates student loans for new and younger members. Hr for Health is an AAO-endorsed company that helps with small business human resource issues. US Bank is an endorsed AAO company for help with office financing. AAO has new alliance with Proctor & Gamble. The AAO logo will be placed on multiple products to be distributed all over the world to help promote the AAO. AAO has several podcasts to help with small business questions and issues.

The NIH has funded a research program entitled Practice Based Research, where private practicing orthodontists can participate by providing patient records into a research pool. The initial orthodontic item is anterior openbite in adult patients. The goal is to attract patients from all over the country and the orthodontist and patient will be compensated for participating.

Do not forget Missouri Orthodontic Society has a website, www.moortho.org. Please refer to the website for information about Missouri orthodontists.

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WISCONSIN

John (Jay) Frazier, President
Michael Maslowski, President-Elect
Alan Ostertag, Vice President
David Mentz, Secretary/Treasurer

The 2015 WSO Fall Conference was held September 13-14 at the Bridgewood Resort in Neenah, Wisconsin. Dr. **Vince Kokich, Jr.**'s presentation, *The Interdisciplinary Team: Creating Esthetic Success in the Ortho-Restorative Patient*, was extremely informative and enjoyed by those in attendance.

Be sure to save the date for our joint meeting with the Wisconsin Society of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons being held April 9, 2016 at the Grand Geneva in Lake Geneva. Our featured speaker will be Dr. **G. William Arnett**. All MSO members are welcome to attend.

For more information, please contact the Wisconsin Society of Orthodontists at the numbers below or visit our website at wisconsinsocietyoforthodontists.com.

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Miscellaneous Articles

Kharouf installed as newest MSO Director

The newest MSO Board member is Dr. **John Kharouf** from Rapid City, South Dakota. He replaced Dr. **Ryan Van Laecken**, who has become an MSO officer. John was born and



raised in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and went to Catholic schools, including the all-boys Jesuit Marquette University High School, Marquette University and dental school. He has two brothers and a sister who live and work in Milwaukee and Chicago, as does most of his family. All are Midwesterners at heart!

After dental school, John joined the USAF and was stationed overseas. After leaving the Air Force, he bought a practice in Rapid City, received his boards and got involved with the state orthodontic society. He also was involved with helping teach at the Roth/Williams course for a couple of years. Two meetings John says tries to never miss are the CDABO and the Roth/Williams meetings. He loves the people and organization's purpose and mission. Several years ago he and Fr. **John Hatcher** set-up a not-for-profit dental clinic on the Rosebud Reservation and now it has a contract with Creighton University for its use as an extramural clinic. In addition, he runs dental clinics about six weeks a year, seeing about 4-500 Native American patients.

John and his wife, Mary, raised two successful children. Their daughter lives, works and writes fiction in Denver and their son is a corporate attorney in Minneapolis practicing privacy law. Mary has multiple degrees in chemistry and engineering, including a teaching degree, which she used for a number of years teaching chemistry and physics at St. Thomas More High School in Rapid City. She has worked on the administrative side of John's practice for the past several years, which, as John says, is great because their work schedules are finally in sync!

John has a real love for all aspects of orthodontics: clinical, business, multidiscipline aspects with other health care professionals, office design, AAO activities, etc. He enjoys being involved with the AAO and those orthodontists and staff because it is for the greater good of our profession, they are the brightest of our profession, they care about more than themselves, they make tremendous sacrifices and they are fighting the good fight. These are some of the leaders he wants to emulate and be around.

In his free time, which is not much, he enjoys traveling, reading and hiking in the Black Hills.

The MSO welcomes John as its newest board member and looks forward to his participation and input.

Graduate School Programs

UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

The fall semester is speeding by for everyone. We are all enjoying the nice fall weather and, of course, Hawkeye football.

The Iowa Society of Orthodontists' meeting was recently held in Iowa City, September 27-28 at the Hotel Vetro. One of the guest speakers was Dr. **Laurel Martin**, MS '95 who practices in Longmont, Colorado.

The Midwestern Society of Orthodontists' meeting was held in Rochester, Minnesota, October 9-10. Dr. **Robert Staley** represented the department at the Educator's Conference. Dr. Staley has announced he plans on retiring on July 1, 2016 after 45 years in the Orthodontic Department. He has contributed in many orthodontic residents' education for which we are extremely grateful. He will have more time to spend time with his seven grandchildren in retirement.

The Department had a continuing education conference on December 4 presented by Dr. **Larry Tadlock**, Director of the Baylor Department of Orthodontics as well as Director of the American Board of Orthodontics. Alumni and members of the Iowa Society of Orthodontics were invited to attend and received CE credit. The orthodontic residents learned a great deal from this CE presentation.

The Orthodontic Department won the 2015 Resident Case Display Program at the AAO Annual Session in San Francisco. Dr. **David Jones** and Dr. **Laura Bonner** were the attending faculty. The incoming class of 2018 has been selected after a very successful Match program. The incoming grads include Dr. **Lina Alsibaie** (Kentucky '16); Dr. **Nicholas Pappas** (VCU '13); Dr. **Samuel Christensen** (Iowa DDS '13 and Certificate in Pediatric Dentistry '15); and Mr. **Thomas Crary** and Mr. **Austin Foster** (Iowa '16).

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University of Manitoba

We welcome Dr. **Baha Atout** as an assistant professor on a two-year contract. Dr. Atout graduated with his PhD in Turkey. His teaching assignments are in the undergraduate and graduate programs.

Three third-year residents presented research papers at the CAO meeting in Victoria, BC in September 2015. They are Drs **Jordan Nemes, Santosh Jayachandran** and **Omar Khatib**. Congratulations are also in order to these three residents who successfully challenged the ABO exams

Our third-year residents sat their comprehensive orthodontics exam in December and are now busily preparing for Part I of the RCDC examinations in February 2016. All four Masters' theses also have been successfully defended.

The program continues to weather the continuing storm of a third funding cutback in three years, which was applied again across the board to all departments in the new Health Sciences faculty for the 2016 fiscal year.

All the best for 2016.

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MAYO

We had a busy and productive fall and the holidays are just around the corner.

Our newest resident in the program is Dr. **Peine Zhu**. Dr. Zhu was born in Shanghai, China and received her DDS at the University of Pittsburgh. Prior to that she worked as a hygienist. Her husband is also a dentist, finishing his second year of endodontic training. She has been very busy in the clinic and has definitely gotten into the flow of things at Mayo Clinic.

Congratulations to Dr. **Jeff Kohlmeier** who graduated in July. His research, *Magnetic Resonance Imaging of the Orthodontic Patient: A Comparative Study Using MAVRIC*, was successfully defended and presented at the Moyers Symposium, the International Society for Magnetic Resonance in Medicine meeting in Toronto and also at the San Francisco AAO meeting in May. We wish him the best as he begins his orthodontic career. Dr. **Eric Wu** is our chief resident and is completing his research and finishing patients. He successfully completed the written portion of the ABO certification examination this past April. Dr. **Eric Orbison**, our second-year resident, continues to do well, especially as an additional mentor to our newest resident, Dr. Zhu.

This past July, Dr. Zhu attended the GORP program hosted by Saint Louis University. In September Dr. Orbison attended the 10-day Tweed Foundation course in Tucson, Arizona. This continues to be a fall highlight for our second-year resident.

Thanks to Dr. **Deb Lien** and her executive team, a successful MSO program was held October 9-10, 2015, in Rochester, Minnesota. Presentations by Mayo Clinic consultants and University of Minnesota speakers were well received. In November, Dr. **Grant Collins**, Class of 2013, spent a morning with residents outlining his experiences in setting up a new practice and how he integrates the business and clinical aspects of orthodontics.

Mayo Clinic orthodontics sponsored clerkships this past year for senior dental students from Minnesota. The fall also has been busy with new resident interviews for the Class of 2019. We have met a talented group of young dentists from across the nation. The selection committee is in the process of finalizing the Match list and match results will be announced December 4, 2015.

We were delighted to visit with our new American Board of Orthodontics director, Dr. **Pat Foley**, at the annual MSO meeting. He brings a rare combination of clinical and educational experience to our constituency and will be an excellent ABO Director.

2016 is shaping up to be a busy year for Mayo Clinic Orthodontics.

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UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

This has been an exciting year for the University of Minnesota Orthodontic residents. Our new resident class is progressing well with many challenging cases. It appears that the wide array of ethnicities in our community has provided excellent challenges for orthodontic treatment planning.

The new first year residents are:

- Dr. **Scott Czarnik** - University of Illinois
- Dr. **Sara Gaalaas** - University of Minnesota
- Dr. **Sean O'Dell** - University of Minnesota
- Dr. **Jacob Schering** - University of Michigan
- Dr. **Eric Smith** - University of Connecticut
- Dr. **Ekaterina Zakharova** - UCLA

The second-year class has the end in sight and doing very well with clinic and research. Congratulations to Dr. **Arianna Weissend**, second-year resident, for being selected to present her abstract for the Oral Research Presentation at the American Association of Orthodontists 2016 Annual Session in Orlando. Her title is *Bioactive Coatings for Orthodontic Appliances to Prevent White Spot Lesions*. The presentation is on Sunday, May 1, 2016 from 8:00am-3:30pm and I would encourage any who are there to hear Arianna's presentation.

This fall the second-year class was fortunate to attend The International Orthodontic Congress, in London, England. The IOC is hosted by the World Federation of Orthodontists every 5 years, on a different continent each time. The conference features the "who's who" of orthodontic professionals from around the globe. This year, over 5,000 orthodontists were in attendance, as well as staff and vendors. We were especially proud to have them represent the University of Minnesota and the United States as the only American residents in attendance.

The meeting was opened by keynote speaker Dr. **Kujipers-Jagtman**, from Radboud University in the Netherlands. They attended lectures covering a wide range of topics and were greatly inspired to be immersed in the international orthodontic community.

They were grateful to the faculty and sponsors who made this unique and amazing opportunity possible, and they are already getting excited for the IOC in Japan, 2020! The group was accompanied by Drs. **Brent Larson**, **Erik Langsjoen** and **Sandra Tai** of Vancouver, BC (a past graduate of the University of Minnesota Orthodontic Program and mother of second-year resident, Dr. **Charlene Tai**).



Both classes attended the January Minnesota Association of Orthodontists meeting. I hope those of you who attended had a chance to introduce yourself to them. We are very proud of our residents and that our program prepares them well for the practice of today and tomorrow.

I would encourage any of you to come visit our program at any time and see what we are doing. We are in the process of converting to intraoral scanning for our digital model capture method. We continue to value the CBCT in our diagnosis and treatment planning. We have an excellent relationship with the Oral and Maxillofacial Division who are now using our CBCT for surgical planning of orthognathic surgery cases. For those of you who are thinking of investing in the CBCT, consider visiting the clinic as an opportunity to see how we utilize it in the different orthodontic applications.

I want to welcome and encourage any of our past graduates or friends who have a special orthodontic interest and who want to share it with the residents, to please contact me to arrange a time to present to the residents.

Finally, we look forward to seeing you all at the AAO.

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UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA

December 2015 Graduation

Dr. **Khanh Luong** – private practice in Metairie, Louisiana

Dr. **Christopher Schultz** – private practice in Colorado Springs, Colorado

Dr. **Jason Scott** – private practice in Spokane, Washington



L to R – Dr. Sheela Premaraj, Dr. Jason Scott, Dr. Sundaralingam “Prem” Premaraj, Dr. Janet Guthmiller (Dean of the UNMC College of Dentistry), Dr. Christopher Schultz, Dr. Khanh Luong and Dr. Jillian Wallen (Chair of UNMC College of Dentistry Growth and Development Department)

Beginning the UNMC College of Dentistry Orthodontic Residency Program on July 1, 2015 were:



L to R: Dr. Leslie Ellingson (UNMC), Dr. Kelsey White (UMKC) and Dr. Jacob Stadiem (Midwestern University – AZ)

Incoming Class – July 1, 2016

July 1, 2016 will be the first day of orientation, classes, clinical practice and research for the future class of 2018. We are happy to welcome the following candidates who have been matched with our program:

Dr. **David Duevel** (UNMC College of Dentistry)

Dr. David Hamm (Marquette)
Dr. Allison Schubert (Marquette)

GORP 2015



UNMC College of Dentistry Orthodontic Residents were honored to have their photo taken with Dr. James McNamara at GORP 2015 in St. Louis, Missouri.

L to R: Dr. Brian Luong, Dr. Payam Ishani, Dr. Emily Willett, Dr. James McNamara, Dr. Jing Ye, Dr. Kelsey White (front), Dr. Leslie Ellingson (back), and Dr. Jacob Stadiem.

Visiting Research Scholar - Dr. Jing Ye



The UNMC College of Dentistry Orthodontics Program was honored to have, Dr. **Jing Ye**, participate in UNMC's International Scholar and Undergraduate Program.

Prior to coming to UNMC for the calendar year of 2015, Dr. Ye was a practicing orthodontist for seven years. She had graduated from Shandong University and had worked as an orthodontist in Jinan Stomatological Hospital.

While at the College of Dentistry, Dr. Ye observed the graduate orthodontic program, both classes and clinics. During this study journey, she additionally engaged in advancing her knowledge of technology and methodology as she participated in research activities.

Dr. Brett Cascini Completes 28 Years of Service



Dr. **Brett Cascini** retired from his Faculty Clinical Instructor position at the UNMC College of Dentistry Graduate Orthodontic Residency Program effective December 31, 2015.

Dr. Cascini completed 28 years of service in August 2015. He has been a College of Dentistry Part-Time Faculty Clinical Instructor since August

1978. Dr. Cascini graduated from the COD in 1984 and received his Orthodontic Certificate from Fairleigh Dickinson in 1986.

In recognition of his service, Dr. Cascini, accompanied by his wife, Mary, was honored by faculty and staff on December 17, 2015.

Dr. Emily Willett Honored at Annual ADPAC Conference

Dr. **Emily Willett** (class of 2016) received an Outstanding New Dentist Advocate Award at the Annual ADPAC (American Dental Political Action Committee) Washington Leadership Conference in April 2015. Emily was selected based on her contributions advocating for dentistry on the local, state and national levels. She has responded to the American Dental Association's (ADA) action alerts, contacted her state and national elected representatives, and provided written and verbal testimony at the Nebraska state legislature. Emily's committed activity and responsibility for advocacy at an educational level as a dental student has advanced to becoming an ADPAC Board member.

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SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY

Fourteen residents will graduate in December of 2015; subsequently they will scatter across the U.S. and the world and are expected to serve their patients and specialty admirably. They and their home dental school are:

Class of 2015

Dr. A. Arruda	Case Western Reserve University
Dr. K. Chang	University of California San Francisco
Dr. D. Conaway	Case Western Reserve University
Dr. D. Dau	University of Florida
Dr. D. Floyd	University of Oregon
Dr. A. Foster	University of Colorado
Dr. A. Jones	University of Alabama
Dr. J. Lee	Baylor College of Dentistry
Dr. T. Mellion	Case Western Reserve University
Dr. A. Mongillo	Nova Southeastern University
Dr. S. Moshiri	University of Louisville
Dr. L. Reinhardt	Southern Illinois University
Dr. D. Shah	Ahmedabad Dental College (India)
Dr. S. Vanichvatana	Chulalongkorn University (Thailand)

The Orthodontic Education and Research Foundation will hold their next meeting in Savannah, Georgia, March 10-13. Many fine speakers will enlighten the audience including **Anoop Sondhi**, **Dave Paquette**, **Lysle Johnston**, **Moe Razzavi**, **Greg Jorgenson**, **Eladio Deleon** and **Hiroshi Ueno**. Dr. **Leon Aronson** will receive the OERF Merit Award. Contact mocalb@slu.edu for information on the OERF meeting.

In addition, the SLU orthodontic program has a number of guest speakers arranged for the summer and fall of 2015. 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.

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University of Missouri - Kansas City

Dr. Jeff Thompson receives the 2015 Dr. Dan Blackwell Excellence in Teaching Award

During our final comprehensive examinations, we were pleased to announce that Dr. **Jeff Thompson** was chosen by the orthodontic residents to receive the Blackwell Excellence in Teaching Award.

L-R: Drs. Matt McCoy, Jeff Thompson, Kristen Sander and Danielle Gilbert. UMKC residents nominated Dr. Thompson to be the 2015 recipient of the Dr. Dan Blackwell Teaching Award.

recipient Time – 17 months
Kristen Sander



Left: During the final comprehensive exam, congratulations were offered by faculty, residents and staff to Jeff.

UMKC School of Dentistry Honors the Service and Dedication of Dr. Jim Osborne

Congratulations to Dr. **Jim Osborne**, Director of Orthodontic Clinics at UMKC School of Dentistry. Dr. Osborne is the 2015 recipient of the UMKC Samuel E. Hayes Award, in



recognition of dedication and outstanding service. Jim started “giving back” to UMKC early, for example, by teaching the typodont course the year after he graduated, and he has just kept on giving! Many of the responses from pre-doctoral students spoke of Dr. Osborne’s concern for their

future. "He is extremely dedicated to my education and wants nothing more than for me to succeed. He keeps expectations high but still takes the time to make it all a fun experience. I feel fortunate to have Dr. Osborne as a mentor." Thank you Jim for all you do for UMKC.

Your Full-Time Faculty....Expanding the influence of UMKC Orthodontics

UMKC full-time faculty have a variety of obligations in addition to teaching and clinical activities. One other area where considerable effort is directed is that of research related activities. Dr. **Shankar Rengasamy Venugopalan** has received 2015 AAOF and AAO Awards. His Orthodontic Faculty Development Award from the American Association of Orthodontists Foundation was named the 2015 Willie and Earl Shepard Fellowship Award for the most meritorious application in this category. His research project for this Fellowship is entitled, *Genomic Studies in Hemi-facial Microsomia and Pierre-Robin Patients*. In addition, Dr. Venugopalan received AAO sponsorship to attend the 2015 Academy of Academic Leadership Program in Atlanta, Georgia.

Drs. **Laura Iwasaki** and **Jeffrey Nickel** continue their service obligations as reviewers of grant applications submitted to a variety of NIDCR study sections and the AAOF. Drs. Iwasaki and Nickel are the principal investigators of two awards from NIH totaling \$3.5 million. This much-needed federal grant funding allows the continuation of their research into the variables that contribute to degenerative joint disease. Additionally, Drs. Iwasaki and Nickel are co-investigators on grants awarded by the AAOF. Firstly, an Education Innovation Award provides funding to bring together investigators at the University of Michigan, University of North Carolina, University of Kentucky, Virginia Commonwealth University, University of Connecticut, University of California San Francisco and UMKC. The project's aim is to improve the success rate of junior faculty seeking grant funding, and promotion and tenure at universities. Secondly, it was recently announced that Drs. Nickel and Iwasaki, together with faculty members from University of North Carolina and Oregon Health Sciences University, were awarded an AAOF Center Award. The three-year award provides \$75,000 to support two Consortium on Orthodontic Advances in Science and Technology (COAST) Innovators' Workshops in 2014 and 2016. The aim of these workshops is to facilitate the development of collaborations amongst leaders in research endeavors relevant to the practice of orthodontics and dentofacial orthopedics. The 2014 Innovators' Workshop was held September 11-14 in Itasca, Illinois. The next COAST Innovators's Workshop is slated for September 8-11, 2016. It will be held in West Palm Beach, Florida. Registration for the COAST Workshop can be found at the following address:

www.faseb.org/Science-Research-Conferences/Attendee-Information/Register-Today.aspx#resultshere

News from the UMKC Orthodontic Residents

We are pleased that our senior residents, Drs. **Danielle Gilbert**, **Matthew McCoy** and **Kristen Sander** completed their orthodontic residency program in December. The final comprehensive examinations took place on December 11 with 13 orthodontic

instructors in attendance to adjudicate the cases presented by our three senior residents. Now that their education at UMKC has been completed, Dr. Gilbert will be returning to her home state of Alabama, to practice in Birmingham. Dr. McCoy will be venturing westward, to practice in Pocatello, Idaho. Dr. Sander will be returning to her home town of Wichita, Kansas, where she will start her solo private practice.



L-R: Our senior graduating residents Drs. Matt McCoy, Kristen Sander and Danielle Gilbert.

Stepping into the role of senior residents are the Class of 2016, Drs. **Whitney Hewitt**, **Andrew McDonald** and **Steven Shaw**. Moving into the role of mentors for our incoming residents will be the Class of 2017, Drs. **Andrew Eichholtz**, **Mark Greenburg** and **Kelsey Loveland**. As of July 1, 2016, our new first-year residents (Class of 2018) will be Drs. **Brad Chun** and **Kevin Kaiser** from University of Missouri Kansas City School of Dentistry, and Dr. **Alecia Cox** from Texas A & M Baylor College of Dentistry.

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AAO and Associated Entities

American Association of Orthodontists Foundation (AAOF)

AWARDS PROGRAM

For the 2015 Awards Program, there were a total of 38 proposals submitted, requesting funding of more than \$1 million, with \$715,000 budgeted.

<http://www.aaofoundation.net/AwardsProgram/AbouttheAAOF AwardsProgram.aspx>.

Beginning with the 2016 AAOF Awards Program, there will be a Call for Proposals for Access to Care initiatives within the Biomedical Research Award and the Center Award funding categories. The proposal deadline was December 15, with decisions to be reached in late February.

<http://www.aaofoundation.net/AwardsProgram/Fundingfor2016.aspx>)

An update on the *AAO Foundation Craniofacial Growth Legacy Collections Project* (www.aaoflegacycollection.org) is now on the AAOF web site (www.aaofoundation.net).

To date, the AAOF has committed \$10.8 million to orthodontic education and research, primarily in support of junior faculty.

<http://aaofoundation.net/AwardsProgram/HistoryoftheAAOF AwardsProgram.aspx>

NAMED AWARDS

2015 has seen the creation of four new AAO Foundation Named Awards, with friends, colleagues and admirers contributing an aggregate of \$250,000 towards the establishment of each of these new awards:

- *Robert L. Boyd Biomedical Research Award*
 - In honor of Dr. Robert Boyd
- *Burstone-Indiana Biomechanics Award*
 - In memory of the late Dr. Charles Burstone
- *Fred and Diane Garrett Biomedical Research Award*
 - In honor of Dr. Fred Garrett
- *James A. McNamara Orthodontic Faculty Development Fellowship Award*
 - In honor of Dr. Jim McNamara

For more information, including how you can be a part of one of these, see

<http://www.aaofoundation.net/portals/0/!NamedAwards-Year-End%20Appeal.pdf>.

WAYS TO GIVE

There are various “Ways to Give” to the AAO Foundation. See link for more information:

<http://aaofoundation.net/Campaign/WaystoGive.aspx>

FOR MORE INFORMATION

See the AAO Foundation website at www.aaofoundation.net for more information. Or, if you should have any questions or concerns, please call **Robert Hazel**, AAOF EVP, at 800-424-2841, #ext. 546 (rhazel@aaortho.org), or me at your convenience.

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American Association of Orthodontists Political Action Committee (AAOPAC)

The Annual Professional Advocacy Conference is scheduled for February 29-March 1 and will coincide with the Component President's Elect Conference in Washington, D.C. These will be preceded by half-day meetings on Sunday, February 28 of the Council on Government Affairs and the Political Action Committee. These meetings will be held consecutively as both groups attend each other's meetings.

We expect that the AAO and other related dental organizations will be well-positioned this year to advance our agenda of expanding or eliminating the cap on Flexible Spending Accounts (FSAs) and repealing or reducing the medical device tax. The AAO is working with a bipartisan group of legislators to advance legislation (the RAISE Act—H.R. 1185) that will tie the cap on FSAs to the number of dependents in a household.

Issues your AAOPAC is working on:

1. Looking at ways to recognize giving to the PAC and encouraging members to not opt out of contributing.
2. Making it easier to contribute to the PAC using the AAO website.
3. Establish a reliable State Captain List led by the President-Elect in each component (state), and a member contact plan for soliciting PAC participation.
4. Developing talking points on why giving to the PAC should be a priority for every AAO member.

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AMERICAN BOARD OF ORTHODONTICS (ABO)

The ABO concluded another exciting year with the September 2015 Clinical Examination. Certification or Recertification was granted for 112 examinees in St. Louis. MSO members who received initial certification at that exam are Drs. **Marc Allen Aucoin**, Quebec City, Quebec; **Ann Downer**, Columbus, Ohio; **Laura Duncan**, Dauphin, Manitoba; **David Lazzara**, St. Charles, Illinois; **Patrick McShane**, Peoria, Illinois; and **Jane Wright**, Kenosha, Wisconsin. First certification renewal was granted to Dr. **Isaac Yue** of Willowbrook, Illinois.

An ABO update was presented at the MSO Annual Session in Rochester in October. This presentation included information regarding a new initiative supported by the ABO for development of well-defined Standards of Care in Orthodontics as an AAO principle.

Our next exam is scheduled for February 2016. Additional testing dates for 2016 are posted on our website.

If you have questions about board certification or the recent changes with the ABO, please go to the ABO website, americanboardortho.com or email me at the address below.

Once again, congratulations to our new board certified/recertified members from the MSO!

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COLLEGE OF DIPLOMATES OF THE AMERICAN BOARD OF ORTHODONTICS (ABO)

The College of Diplomates 37th Reunion with Dr. **Kimsey Anderson** as President, was held July 17-22, at the Ritz-Carlton, Bachelor Gulch, Avon, Colorado. The Scientific Program focused on *Personalized Orthodontics and the Relationship of Genetics to the Future of our Specialty*. The goal was to increase our understanding of genetics, and to interpret and apply genetic research to our clinical orthodontic practices in orthodontics. Committee members include Dr. **Ken Hrechka**, General Chair; Dr. **James Hartsfield**, Scientific Chair; Dr. **Galen & Beth Miller**, Social Chairs; Dr. **Valerie & Tim Jenkins**, Children's Program; Dr. **Linda Regali & Jim Clayton**, Golf Chairs; Dr. **Dan & Julie Rejman**, Fun Run chairs; and the advisor was **John Doris**. Twelve hours of continuing education was available.

A few years ago the College instituted a program referred to as the Residents Attendance Program (RAP). The purpose of this program was to bring orthodontic residents to the College's annual summer meeting. The College provides the lodging and food costs for the residents. At this year's College annual summer meeting, 24 residents from the University of Colorado were able to attend. Thanks to the efforts of Dr. **Galen Miller**, Director of the Orthodontic Department.

CDABO's 38th Annual Meeting will be July 8-12, 2016, in the Smoky Mountains at The Omni Grove Park Inn, Asheville, North Carolina. Get back to nature and take the drive along the incredibly enjoyable and breathtaking Blue Ridge Parkway. The 2016 summer meeting will focus on *Cutting Edge Technology in the Changing Orthodontic Environment*. The College will be honoring Dr. **William Proffit** for his outstanding contribution to orthodontics. Speakers will include Drs. **Eric Ploumis, Flavio Uribe, Steve McEvoy, Brent Larson** and **Bruce Goldstein**. Registration materials will be posted at www.cdabo.org.

This year's Samir Bishara Award of Merit, given annually to a College member who has gone "a step beyond" in service to the College and the orthodontic community, was presented to Dr. **Perry Opin**. Perry has been an active member of the College since 1979, a College Diplomate for 36 years, a Council member and College president in 1993. He also served on multiple College committees and continues to serve us as Parliamentarian. Besides being in the College, Perry has been an active member in many professional organizations including the American Board of Orthodontics, the Angle Society, the Northeastern Society of Orthodontists, the Connecticut State Dental Society and the American Association of Orthodontists. In addition to the Samir Bishara award, he has received the 2008 Brophy Distinguished Service Award by the AAO, NESO's Joseph DiStasio Distinguished Service Award and the Founders Award by the College.

In 2017 Dr. **Paul Miller** will be President and the 39th Annual Meeting will be July 7-11, 2017, at the Resort at Squaw Creek, Lake Tahoe, California. The Most Beautiful Drive in America is in the Lake Tahoe California-Nevada Basin. Lake Tahoe is a world-wide travel destination. It is family oriented and offers us a great opportunity to enhance our professional, social and family connections. The meeting theme will be *Controversies: Stability of The End Result*. Speakers will include: Drs. **Wick Alexander, William Proffit, Jason Cope, Peter Buschang, Perry Opin, James Vaden** and **Gary Opin**. Dr. **Wick Alexander** will be honored for his exceptional commitment and lifetime achievement to our orthodontic profession.

In 2018 Dr. **Terry Sobler** will have his annual session in Orlando, Florida. We elected to have the meeting in proximity to Disney to foster an atmosphere of family, education, congeniality and fun.

The 2019 annual meeting will be located in Nashville, Tennessee. Dr. **Eric Dellinger** will be President. Nashville is not only the capital of Tennessee, but the home of the Grand Ole Opry, Country Music Hall of Fame and a full scale replica of the Greek Parthenon.

Non-boarded certified orthodontists can attend one time to evaluate the College meeting and, hopefully, become board certified and join our family reunion. The annual meeting is family-oriented. The scientific meeting is from 8am to noon allowing family time in the afternoon. Twelve CEs are earned at the meeting.

Special recognition to CDABO Executive Director, **Scott Cant**, and his executive assistants, **Jan Beck** and **Darrin Crittington**, for their outstanding efforts.

The College of Diplomates of the American Board of Orthodontics, sponsors a Discrepancy Index and a Cast Radiograph prep course to prepare members taking the ABO clinical portion of their board certification process. This prep course will be offered at your upcoming constituent meeting. The CDABO Constituent Affairs Committee is requesting a volunteer diplomate from the MSO to serve on this committee to assist with the courses.

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COMMITTEE ON INSURANCE (COI)

The Committee on Insurance just completed its second face-to-face meeting of the year on December 4-5 in St. Louis at AAO Headquarters. The Committee once again hosted representatives from New York Life, the underwriter for many of the AAO's endorsed insurance plans and also Pearl Insurance, AAO's broker for all endorsed insurance products.

The representatives gave reports summarizing each insurance product that the AAO endorses. The programs are having another solid year and continue to be a valuable member benefit. The Committee heard presentations about several new insurance products designed to protect AAO members and also discussed different strategies that Pearl insurance can use to make members more aware of the total "market basket" of insurance products that the AAO endorses. Please be on the lookout for announcements from AAO and Pearl Insurance in the coming months. These insurance products offer members one-stop shopping for competitive products to mitigate risks both personally and professionally.

One of the upcoming events that COI is sponsoring for AAO members is a webinar entitled, *Do I Have a Comprehensive Financial Plan?* The webinar will air live on March 30, 2016 at 7:15 PM (CST). The speaker is **Eric Studley**, DDS and he is licensed to offer insurance products and specializes in the insurance planning needs of Healthcare Professionals. A renowned speaker in the Dental Community, Dr. Studley has lectured throughout the country on the subjects of ethics, insurance planning, case acceptance, ergonomics, risk and practice management. Please visit the AAO's website for more information on this webinar or any of the others in *The Business of Orthodontics Series* (https://www.pathlms.com/aaocourses/1763/webinar_series/43).

The Committee also heard reports from AAOIC, a risk retention group, on professional liability risks. Many of you may know that AAOIC produces 3-hour risk management CE course available several times throughout the year. AAOIC insureds receive a 10% premium reduction for attending the CE program. The AAOIC board has recently decided to reduce the time of the risk management courses to two hours in hopes of encouraging more members to attend. Please look for this CE program at the AAO Annual Session in Orlando or one of many constituent meetings throughout the year.

As always if you have any specific questions please feel free to contact me. I will do my best to answer or refer you to someone who can answer.

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COUNCIL ON COMMUNICATIONS (COC)

The Council on Communications (COC) met in person May 29 and 30, 2015 at the AAO in St. Louis and by telephone conference call on July 10, 2015.

The paid advertising campaign for fiscal year 2015-16 themed “What Makes Me Smile” is underway. TV commercials are running on U.S. cable outlets HGTV, DIY, Food, Cooking and Great American Country. The schedule of U.S. TV commercials is posted weekly at <https://www.aaoinfo.org/communities/topic/aaoinfo-advertising>. Watch for announcements on the AAO’s member Facebook page and Twitter feed when the schedule has been posted. In Canada, cable TV outlets include the W Network, E! and SRC (Society Radio Canada), a French language cable network. Digital outreach appears in the form of search engine marketing/sponsored keyword searches on Google, sponsored social media messages (Facebook, SheKnows, BlogHer), and Web banner ads placed on websites frequented by our target audience that are delivered via Google AdWords. Other digital outreach occurs through video streaming services such as Hulu, Pandora and Spotify. Also in Canada, a year-long digital video/banner campaign is running on www.CBC.ca. The media buy in Puerto Rico is currently on hold. Several of the print publications in which AAO ads ran have gone out of business.

Remember that the materials developed for the CAP, as well as other AAO-branded materials, are available for AAO members to use to promote themselves and their practices. Materials include videos (including TV commercials) that can be used on websites/social media outlets, print ads (which can be customized and posted online as well as used in advertising), radio commercials, posters, direct mail postcards, Web banner ads, brochures and educational fliers. Visit <https://www.aaoinfo.org/practice-management/market-your-practice> and <https://www.aaoinfo.org/practice-management/patient-management/patient-education>.

A “What Makes Me Smile” section of the consumer website, mylifemysmile.org, “piggybacks” on the AAO’s “What Makes Me Smile” commercials and ads. As a reminder, we as members are encouraged to invite our patients to upload their “selfies” to the website, along with a quote about what makes them smile. Consumers can credit the AAO member who treated them, and mention the city in which the member practices. To see your patients and your name on mylifemysmile.org, give your patients this link: https://mylifemysmile.org/#What_Makes_Me_Smile.

To support marketing outreach that educates the public about the benefits of adult therapy, a section of mylifemysmile.org is dedicated to the [AAO Adult Hall of Fame](#). Your nomination of adult patients who have interesting careers is requested. Nomination is easy to do. The bonus is that if your nominee is inducted in to the Hall of Fame, you will be acknowledged by name and city as the individual’s orthodontist. The nomination form is available at <https://www.aaoinfo.org/practice/marketing/nominations-adult-hall-fame>.

The AAO's public relations (PR) outreach that educates the public about the dangers of do-it-yourself (DIY) orthodontics has attracted significant attention of media outlets, and by extension their audiences, in the U.S., Canada and abroad. Stories have appeared in print and electronic media including The New York Times, Today.com, Inside Edition, Yahoo! Health, Reuters, Refinery29.com, Cosmo.com, Seventeen.com, The Globe and Mail (Canada), The Daily Mail (U.K.), The Sun (U.K.), The International Business Times (Australia), and dozens of local TV U.S. TV stations. A radio station in Ireland interviewed AAO president-elect **DeWayne McCamish** on the topic (<https://vimeo.com/137185585>).

A series of TV and radio public service announcements (PSAs) that educate the public about the dangers of DIY orthodontics was released in July. Watch the 60-second TV PSA here <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OwFY9x22knc>. Through September 2, 60 TV stations have aired the AAO's PSA 1,900 times. The TV PSAs feature AAO member Dr. **Patricia Panucci** of Manhattan Beach, CA.

Planned PR outreach for the remainder of the calendar year will include new farm-to-table recipes for adult patients, new orthodontic-friendly National Orthodontic Health Month (NOHM) recipes, and reminding the public that pre-tax funds from flexible spending accounts can be used for orthodontic treatment. Our PR firm is poised to leverage unexpected opportunities as they arise. In addition, as a way to expend the AAO brand, the Board of Trustees tasked our PR firm with exploration of partnering with major corporate vendors to promote the AAO logo on packaging to identify "orthodontic-friendly" and healthy products.

New and updated materials for NOHM are available in the robust how-to guide at <https://www.aainfo.org/practice-management/market-your-practice/orthodontic-health-month>. Please check it out. New artwork, new posters, new orthodontic-themed activity sheets, updated handouts for patients, new customizable stickers to place on trick-or-treat bags, new donation cards to solicit donations for a charity of your choice which then are used to create an attractive display in your office, and a month's worth of social media posts for the month of October are only part of the array of information and tools that were created for our use as AAO members. AAO members are encouraged to participate in Halloween candy buy-back events this fall, and to make the AAO Donated Orthodontic Services Program (DOS) the beneficiary. Details about hosting a candy buy-back along with tools for an easy, turn-key event, are part of the NOHM how-to guide. To become a DOS provider, or to start a DOS program, visit https://www.aainfo.org/practice/patient-management/donated-orthodontic-services-program#.

The 2015 House of Delegates approved funds for a matching grant program that is intended to help component organizations promote the AAO Consumer Awareness Program (CAP) at a local level using CAP materials. The House assigned development of the program's business plan to the COC. The completed plan was approved by the Board

of Trustees at its August 2015 meeting. The plan will be distributed to constituent organizations and component officers detailing the steps required for participation. In addition, there will be a conference call this fall for component presidents and constituent executive directors to review the particulars of this program.

Two new educational fliers are in development and, when approved, will be made available to AAO members for free download. The topics are the dangers of soft drinks for orthodontic patients and the correlation between small airways and orthodontic problems.

The AAO's advertising and PR firms are beginning work on a "pop-up" event that will be designed to expand the AAO brand and executed in conjunction with the September 2016 fashion week in New York City. Entitled "Your Smile is Your Best Fashion Accessory," the event will be held in a high-traffic venue and give consumers an opportunity to learn more about orthodontic treatment and its benefits. The AAO will engage a fashion expert to blog about the event and invite local followers to attend, local media coverage will be solicited, photos and videos of the event will be shared with traditional and social media outlets, and sponsors will be invited to underwrite the cost of the event and appear at it to promote their products/services. The event will also serve as a prototype for replication in other cities.

To help educate other healthcare professionals who are in contact with young patients, the COC is looking into methods to share the AAO educational flier *Problems to Watch for in Seven Year Olds* with pediatric physicians.

The AAO's biennial mailing to school nurses in the U.S., Canada and Puerto Rico, a COC project, is going out in September 2015. The mailing includes printed copies of [Handling Orthodontic Emergencies; Prevent Accidents, but Know What to Do If One Occurs](#); and a new educational flier [Beware of Do-It-Yourself Orthodontics](#). Recipients are advised to contact nearby AAO members if they have questions about information in the materials.

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COUNCIL ON ORTHODONTIC EDUCATION (COE)

The COE met in St Louis on October 26, 2015 at the AAO offices. This was my last year as Chair of COE and I wish to express my thanks and appreciation to all the COE members for their support and trust placed in me during my two-year term. It was indeed a great honor to serve. My sincere thanks to **Anita Craig** and **Bridget Hollis** at the AAO for their help, assistance and professionalism during my tenure on the COE as Chair.

The agenda dealt with issues related to the MATCH, CODA issues and the SOE. Dr. **Gary Inman** served as our BOT Liaison officer and we had a teleconference call with Dr. **Garland Hersey**, our CODA representative. Drs. **Ed Yen**, **Richard Ballard** and **Allan Weimer** will end their term on the Council.

The Educators' Meeting of the MSO took place in Rochester on Saturday, October 10, 2015 with representatives from all the MSO graduate orthodontic programs. We discussed the MATCH as well as selection of residents. This year's Educators Meeting will take place on Saturday, November 5, 2016 at the Swissotel in Chicago and will be arranged by the new COE MSO representative, once identified and appointed.

The SOE conference will be held on Friday, April 29, 2016 at the AAO Annual Session in Orlando, Florida. The COE organizing committee with SOE President **Scott Conley** and President-elect **Richard Ballard** are working on the agenda. Please diarize these dates and plan on attending the SOE meeting in Orlando.

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COUNCIL ON GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS (COGA)

The AAO Council on Governmental Affairs met at the Mayflower Renaissance in Washington D.C. on September 8-9, 2015. We met with several key legislators during dinner meetings where the RAISE bill (H.R. 1185) was the primary focus of our discussions. The RAISE bill came out of COGA as a legislative priority for the AAO membership and patients of our members. RAISE was introduced on the House floor February 27, 2015. Representatives **Steve Stivers** (R-OH) and **Michelle Grisham** (D-NM) championed the bill on behalf of the AAO. RAISE stands for Responsible Additions and Increases to Sustain Employee Health Benefits ACT of 2015. If signed into law, the bill would raise the cap on flexible spending accounts (FSA's) to \$5,000; allow for an additional \$500 per each dependent in a family after the first two, thus allowing larger families to elect more in FSA savings; and the bill would eliminate the "use it or lose it" provision allowing employees to carry over unused sums from year to year without a limit. COGA and AAO legislative counsel in D.C. had an integral part in the drafting, naming and successful search for sponsors of the bill. The AAO and COGA are presently and aggressively lobbying Congress to pass the RAISE ACT of 2015.

We are certain this bill could have a very large positive impact on our orthodontic profession, our practices and all associated industries by providing families with more tax-free income to devote to orthodontic care. The bill now has over 50 co-sponsors on a bipartisan basis in the House. A companion bill in the Senate is being formulated and it was our "ask" of the members of Congress that we visited on the Hill, that they consider signing onto their respective bills. We have achieved verbal support by AAO "friends" in the Senate willing to co-sponsor the bill once the Senate version is a go. We made it clear to our legislators that the Affordable Care Act and the lowered FSA limit to \$2,500, effective in 2013, is unfair to American families. Most families, as you already know, go through that much in deductibles and co-pays for medical care alone and have nothing left over when they need to make decisions about orthodontic care for themselves or their children.

Squire Patton Boggs, our AAO legislative counsel, will be working on a vehicle to which the RAISE bill may be attached. Representative Stivers, as a member of the House Rules and Means Committee, is pushing for signing 100 cosponsors before he feels the bill could be attached to a "Tax Extender." Possibilities had included attachment to the state Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) Reauthorization or the Medicare Physician's Payments, Doc Fix however unfortunately both of these measures are no longer in process. There is not currently an obvious medical arena that our bill can ride with. Our argument to legislators to achieve strong bipartisan support for the RAISE bill includes: that the bill would raise the economy and how much employees spend on healthcare; that this is appealing policy change to employers and to consumers; the FSA change would increase the use of prevention in medicine and more patients would make better choices and more proactive decisions concerning their health; and if families defer healthcare because they can't afford it, this will cost government much more than what

it will cost to make this change with RAISE. The AAO will need an “Independent Economic Analysis” on the bill to achieve an official score and determine a more specific cost of the bill. This “Scoring” gives a much more accurate indication of budgetary implications and allows the bill to move through more expediently. Firms for this analysis are being sought currently.

The “*Medically Necessary Orthodontic Care*” definition and AAO policy position on the definition was reviewed by COGA as directed by the 2014 House of Delegates. No changes were made in the wording or policy. AAO’s “Medically Necessary Orthodontic Care” definition has been presented to the ADA and other specialties with continued support for AAO’s approach using coding instead of indexes to manage this area. Currently CMS (Medicaid system) uses the Salzman index. Most insurance payers have adopted what each state has adopted as an index. In California, for example, a Medicaid provider has to use a cumbersome system and send in models/x-rays and submit to a lengthy appeals process. The AAO is suggesting that a pilot program with payers be instituted in order to qualify cases, as most payers do not want to be inundated with models and extensive records, but yet the insurers want to have qualifiers so that if there is an audit, they have a comparison standard. The Council on Orthodontic Healthcare is working on codes and terminology and also working to find a path to allow a petition when updates are needed to the codes in the future. We also note that current treatment codes with the ADA likely need to change to diagnostic codes instead to meet CMS guidelines.

AAO General Counsel **Kevin Dillard** detailed that a new AAO Assistant General Counsel will be hired and they are in interview talks currently. The new assistant Counsel will specifically be hired to head the component legal support fund of \$1 million passed by the last House of Delegates; to oversee the state legislative network and to be the AAOPAC Treasurer. Mr. Dillard will remain with COGA as staff liaison. By developing a comprehensive program using the RAP index to decide in each state which AAO members would best be suited to be advocates/activists for legislative issues, the AAO would be able to assist states with specific issues. As an example, in Texas, currently general dentists want to be recognized in each specialty and even the AGD wants to have their own state recognition. These are not ADA recognized groups that are requesting the recognition, so possibly the component legal support fund could help here. It has been ruled unconstitutional for the State Dental Boards to mandate that a state can only recognize a dental specialty recognized by the ADA. We are watching these state-by- state concerns closely and now have funds available to assist, if necessary. Each state will need to complete an application and explain their use for the funds.

We discussed and expect that the BOT would approve and be proactive and use AAO money and not necessarily the state legal support fund if a “broad” issue arises which could impact all states imminently. In these circumstances the AAO may coalition with the ADA, oral surgeons or periodontists, for example, as financial and legislative allies.

We expect that the most likely use for the state legal funds would be to hire a lobbyist to assist with a specific topic, using the AAO Assistant General Counsel as support.

COGA members and the AAOPAC fundraising committee of Drs. **Ogata, Hunt, Crutchfield, Jensen**, AAO Trustee **Nagel** also interviewed two firms in September who would be hired to assist the AAO with professional fundraising for AAOPAC. We were pleased with their expertise and motioned and passed a vote to allow up to \$12,500 for each firm to do an in depth analysis of fundraising needs and report back to COGA by November 1. Our intent is to have a fundraising strategic plan and process in effect by February 28 immediately prior to the next Professional Advocacy Conference and to announce these plans at the conference.

While in Washington D.C., COGA also reviewed healthcare policy including the increase of federal match for (CHIP) which provides for a 23 percent increase in children's health insurance program match rate up to a cap of 100 percent and was implemented October 1, 2014. Also to be implemented in January 2016, Health Care Choice Compacts permit states to form healthcare choice compacts and allows insurers to sell policies in any state participating in the compact. Yet another health policy change will be The Affordable Care Act's January 1, 2018 "Cadillac Tax" on High Cost Insurance imposing an excise tax of 40% on high-cost employer health insurance. The "Cadillac Tax" was created to discourage overly generous plans, but instead it seems to be causing the unintended consequence of targeting the "Corollas" of plans. Workers and employers who contribute the maximum allowed by law to an FSA—a combined \$2,550 a year—could push many company plans over the tax threshold. The threshold is \$10,200 in health benefits for individual coverage and \$27,500 for a family in 2018. This threshold however takes into account not just the value of insurance premiums, but also other benefits offered by employers, including money put in flexible spending accounts. Benefits consultants say this will prompt many employers to limit the amount workers can put in the FSA accounts or do away with the accounts altogether. This threat to FSA's has further stoked efforts by many in Congress to try to repeal the tax. Lawmakers and benefits managers are concerned the tax will hurt middle-class earners by taking away a needed benefit. The AAO and COGA need to stay involved closely here and if the "Cadillac Tax" proceeds without repeal, we will be working on a "carve out for FSA's" so that small businesses are not affected and our employees and our patients can keep their FSA's.

Even though we may disagree with these difficult consequences of the Affordable Care Act such as the "Cadillac Tax," a repeal and replace of the ACA will be nearly impossible because of what is already implemented and in effect. Also, our President can and has stated that he will veto anything to do with repeal of the ACA. The best option we may have in many of these cases is to support a "carve out". Legislators may use the "carve out" to keep consumers happy and their constituents happy without taking on the cost of paying to repeal the "Cadillac Tax." This is a more manageable option than the steep cost of repeal. Since the main purpose of the "Cadillac Tax" was to discourage

employers from offering these high cost plans and, thus, keeping healthcare cost down, it is unfortunate and unpopular that FSA's were included in the tax plan. Fortunately the labor unions, big employers, small employers, Fortune 500's, insurance and pharmaceutical companies are on the same side of this issue and will fight to make changes to this 2018 Tax implementation.

The Medical Device Access and Innovation Protection Act, spearheaded by Senator **Orrin Hatch**, (R-UT) purpose is to amend the Internal Revenue Code, thus repealing the excise tax on medical device manufacturers and importers. Senator **Hatch** has 39 cosponsors and significant support on both sides of the aisle. We do expect the repeal to pass; the question is not if it will but when it will pass. The cost to repeal increases the federal deficit by 24.4 billion dollars over the 2015 to 2025 period. Even with this cost, we are told to expect that the Senate will make a united effort to repeal the tax before the end of this calendar year. Representative **Erik Paulsen**, (R) from Minnesota championed the Medical Device Access and Innovation Protection Act in the House where it passed in June 2015 with 282 cosponsors. The AAO also supports comprehensive review of tax policy and identification of policies that treat small businesses fairly. This includes that "long term certainty" in tax rates should be provided and apply to payroll, capital gains and investments in growing businesses. Our "ask" was to "Adopt Tax Reform for Small Businesses" by streamlining provisions that complicate operations and impose significant compliance costs on the small businesses that are the primary engine of job creation in the U.S.

There was a bill recently brought forward to cap federal graduate school loans at \$150,00 and COGA will be monitoring the progression of the bill. The Budget Control Act of 2011 created additional challenges by eliminating the federal subsidized (interest free) loans for graduate students while a student is still in school or in a deferment period. We discussed with our legislators that the AAO supports making federal subsidized loans available to graduate students and that Congress should change tax laws to allow all professionals who incur significant student loan debt to deduct the interest costs of those loans, regardless of the professionals income levels. COGA members explained that the high cost of education in orthodontics and other dental specialties effectively prevents many current graduates from opening practices in rural and underserved communities.

The next COGA meeting will be in Washington D.C. on February 28, 2016 immediately prior to the combined President-Elects Conference and Professional Advocacy Conference. This will be a similar format to the 2015 conference where we will meet in general session on February 29 for Capitol Hill training and sessions with specific members of Congress giving their presentations. Then on March 1, we will all join to bring AAO issues to Capitol Hill.

Thank you for allowing me to represent you on such an instrumental council. This indeed is an honor and my privilege to serve.

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COUNCIL ON ORTHODONTIC HEALTH CARE (COHC)

The COHC has continued working on issues related to access to orthodontic healthcare, insurance coding and third-party payer issues. The Council has a conference call scheduled for January 9, 2016.

The major issue that the COHC, as well as AAO members and our patients, are facing is the adjudication of insurance claims for “Medically Necessary Orthodontic Care” (MNOC). As we all know, the Affordable Care Act includes orthodontic benefits in cases deemed to be “medically necessary.” As mentioned previously in my updates, a task force was established to study the variables involved with these cases and to provide a consistent method for determining medical necessity and to process claims. The task force was successful in developing criteria and auto-qualifiers that would streamline the claims submission and approval process. **Steve Robirds** and I attended the National Association of Dental Plans CONVERGE Conference in September to present the task force suggestions. We had the opportunity to meet face-to-face with insurance industry representatives and we discussed necessary next steps to implement the changes that have been suggested. The payer reps were very interested in the proposed criteria and it was decided that a pilot study should be undertaken to retrospectively test the new criteria versus the criteria that has been used since January 1, 2015. This pilot study will be performed in early 2016 and results will be reported as soon as reasonable. The task force will continue to work on coding solutions for these cases as well. Look for further updates in future *Bulletin* articles. Please contact me if you have further questions on this important and complicated issue.

The ADA Code Maintenance Committee will meet in February 2016. This is your opportunity to submit suggested code changes to the body that has the power to make those changes. Further info on submitting codes can be found on www.ada.org. As a follow up to my last report, the deadline to include diagnostic coding on dental claim forms came and went on October 1, 2015. Software vendors have been slow to implement this change by updating their software to include a box for diagnostic codes on software generated insurance claim forms. Payers are continuing to pay claims without the diagnostic code and this will, hopefully, continue in the future. The AAO has an excellent ICD-10 crosswalk available on the AAO website to help navigate the changing coding environment.

The AAO Donated Orthodontic Services program continues to grow across the country. The AAODOS has an active Board consisting of AAO members, as well as representatives of the orthodontic industry, working to expand marketing opportunities and awareness of the program. Please contact me if you would like to become an AAODOS Volunteer.

Finally, I would again like to make a plug for the AAO Dental Benefits Advisory Service, which is staffed by Ann Sebaugh. The hotline is an excellent resource for members,

especially with the changes to the Affordable Care Act and Medically Necessary Orthodontic Care. Ann is ready and willing to help so please use her services.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or comments.

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COUNCIL ON MEMBERSHIP, ETHICS AND JUDICIAL CONCERNS (COMEJC)

Happy New Year!

Upon occasion the AAO receives complaints from the public or other practitioners about an AAO member. When this occurs, details of the complaint are directed to AAO's Council on Membership, Ethics and Judicial Concerns. The Council is charged to look into each matter and determine if any violation of the *AAO's Principles of Ethics and Code of Professional Conduct* have been breached. In 2015 nine such complaints occurred. None of these complaints involved MSO members. Well done MSO! These numbers are pleasingly low when considering an organization of our size. Even so, we must not become complacent in our efforts to practice orthodontics with the highest degree of ethical professionalism. Please consider a New Year's resolution to remain familiar with these guidelines for ethical practice. Besides minimizing risk for complaints, providing ethical orthodontic care is a great practice builder!

23% of the AAO's membership currently includes International Members located outside of North America. A Task Force has been appointed and assigned work "to review ways to ensure international involvement and representation in AAO Governance." International AAO Ambassadors and others (COMEJC is also represented) are involved with this Task Force, which will be meeting via conference call soon to discuss the matter and report its recommendations to the AAO Trustees in February. COMJEC periodically evaluates various membership categories to develop appropriate guidelines enabling those with required orthodontic educational credentials to participate with the AAO. If you have suggestions or concerns about any area of membership, you may share them with the Council through me by phone or email.

During its January 2016 meeting in St. Louis, COMEJC will be meeting with Dr. **Jerry Jacobs**, a well-known author on professional ethics to review existing *AAO Bylaws* and policy. Any alterations or updates related to our bylaws will be shared with all membership in upcoming AAO and/or MSO communications.

Best wishes for a healthy, prosperous and ethical 2016!

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Council on New and Younger Members (CONYM)

The CONYM is working on a proposal for a mentorship program that utilizes cloud-based app-like utility to connect mentors and mentees. At this time, the formal proposal is still being developed.

Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

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COUNCIL ON ORTHODONTIC PRACTICE (COOP)

COOP met at AAO Headquarters on November 18, 2015. Below are the highlights from that meeting as well as various conference calls throughout the year.

COOP and COMEJC are studying the issue of patient abandonment. A conference call was held on December 9, 2015. After much brainstorming, the following recommendations were made:

- Draft a letter to members explaining the issue of patient abandonment and its importance and whether they would have an interest in helping out in their area should a need arise. Would they be willing to take at least one patient? Collect those willing and place their names in a database.
- Have a video go out to members as a message from the AAO President.

The 2016 Practice Transition Seminar is scheduled for Friday, April 29 in conjunction with the AAO Annual Session in Orlando and will feature networking among the participants and speakers, including round table lunch discussions. The speaker lineup will consist of:

- Mr. **Ken Alexander** – practice transitions
- Mr. **Scott McDonald** – demographics
- Dr. **Eric Ploumis** – contracts
- Mr. **Roger Hill** – finances

The 2016 Orthodontic Career Fair will be held on Sunday, May 1 in conjunction with the AAO Annual Session in Orlando.

The DSO Taskforce met with CEO's of many of the major Corporate Dental Companies (DSO's) prior to the AAO Professional Advocacy Conference, with the purpose of finding areas of common interest, such as the RAISE Act and the rising student debt issue.

The Mutual Aid Agreement has been approved by AAO General Counsel, but pending comparison of the existing agreement and the Council's version.

The AAO series of archived webinars is available for viewing, including the *Business of Orthodontics*, which is free to all AAO members.

If you have any questions or suggestions, please don't hesitate to let me know. COOP next meets in St. Louis on November 12, 2016.

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COUNCIL ON SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS (COSA)

The Council on Scientific Affairs (COSA) met via videoconference on January 6, 2016. COSA reviewed 26 applications for the Hellman, Sicher and Graber Awards. The winners will present their lectures during Annual Session. The following are the 2016 AAO Research Awards winners:

Milo Hellman Research Award to Dr. **Britney Bare** from Texas A&M University Baylor College of Dentistry for research titled, *Analysis of Bone Augmentation with Corticotomy-Facilitated Dental Expansion: A Histologic & Micro-CT Study*.

Harry Sicher Research Award to Dr. **John Michael DuRussel** from the University of Michigan for research titled, *Bone Mineralization Dependent Craniosynostosis and Craniofacial Shape Abnormalities in the Mouse Model of Infantile Hypophospha*.

Thomas M. Graber Awards of Special Merit to:

Dr. **Jonathan Christian Francis** from the University of Kentucky for research titled, *Screw-Type Device Diameter and Orthodontic Loading Influence Adjacent Bone Remodeling*.

Dr. **Kelly Martinez Owen** from Texas A&M University Baylor College of Dentistry for research titled, *Elevation of a Full-Thickness Mucoperiosteal Flap Alone Accelerates Orthodontic Tooth Movement*.

Dr. **Heather Hendricks** from the University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill for research titled, *The Investigation of Primary Failure of Eruption (PFE) Etiology: A Functional and In Silico Approach*.

Dr. **Lucy Lee Wachs** from the University of Kentucky for research titled, *Association of APOE-ε Isoforms and Reduced BMI Values in Obstructive Sleep Apnea Patients with a Convex Dento-Facial Profile*.

The 2017 Hellman, Sicher and Graber applications will be an online application and will be available on March 15, 2016. The deadline to apply is October 1, 2016.

COSA accepted 28 Oral Research applications, 515 E-Poster applications and 64 Table Clinic applications to be presented at the 2016 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 2016 Charley Schultz Resident Scholar Award program to be held at the 2016 AAO Annual Session. The online application can be found on the AAO website and the deadline to apply for this program is March 1, 2016.

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, which can be found 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's next meeting is April 29, 2016, 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 Oral Research presentations.

COSA meets every January by videoconference. The next videoconference meeting is scheduled for January 6, 2017.

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