

Midwestern Society of Orthodontists Top 10 2023 MSO-RMSO Annual Session Highlights

October 13-14 • Rochester, Minnesota

- 1) The first combined constituent meeting with the Midwestern Society of Orthodontists (MSO) and Rocky Mountain Society of Orthodontists (RMSO) treated over 180 total attendees to a unique program to help attending doctors and staff *Discover Wellness Beyond Healthy Smiles* for their patients.
- 2) The exhibit hall featured a variety of the latest products and services with an opportunity to connect in-person with area representatives of 39 vendors. In addition to the complimentary breakfasts, lunches, breaks, and an exhibitor reception served in the exhibit area, a highlight was the Welcoming Desserts Reception featuring music provided by MSO members Drs. **John Crawford** and **Paul Hermanson** in the heart of the nearby Mayo Clinic downtown campus.
- 3) Dr. **Nellie Kim-Weroha** led the meeting as current president with Dr. **Deborah Lien** serving as the general meeting chair, both from Rochester, Minnesota. RMSO president Dr. Kristen Lowe and committee member Dr. John DuRussel filled out the co-constituent committee.
- 4) The following new officers were elected to serve MSO members for the 2023 - 2024 term: Dr. **Spencer Pope** of Flossmoor, Illinois as president; Dr. **Michael LaFerla** of Joplin, Missouri as president-elect; and Dr. **Emily Willett** of Lincoln, Nebraska as secretary-treasurer. Dr. **Mike Durbin** of Des Plaines, Illinois continues as an officer and MSO Trustee to the American Association of Orthodontists (AAO) Board.
- 5) Dr. **Sumit Yadav** of Lincoln, Nebraska joins the Board as the new Nebraska director following Dr. Willett's election to secretary-treasurer. Also continuing to serve their respective component organization on the MSO Board as directors are: Drs. **Bronwen Richards** of Rock Island, Illinois; **Melissa Bernhardt** of West Des Moines, Iowa; **Carolina Frota** of Winnipeg, Manitoba; **Estee Wang** of Maplewood, Minnesota; **John Firth** of St. Louis, Missouri; **Emerson Ehlis** of North Dakota; **Keri Barrow** of Sioux Falls, South Dakota; and **John Kittleson** of Mequon, Wisconsin.
- 6) Elected to serve as MSO's delegates and alternates to the AAO 2024 House include Drs. **Nellie Kim-Weroha** - Chair, **Emily Willett** - Vice Chair, **Deborah Lien**, **Spencer Pope**, **Jahnvi Rao**, **Bronwen Richards**, **Dennis Sommers**, and **Estee Wang**.
- 7) MSO's 2023 Earl E. Shepard Distinguished Service Award was presented at the Annual Member Business Meeting to Dr. **Brian Jespersen** of Bismarck, North Dakota. Dr. **Pat Foley** of St. Louis, Missouri has been named to receive the 2024 award at next year's meeting in Rosemont, Illinois.
- 8) These MSO members were recognized at the MSO Annual Member Business Meeting for their service with plaques mailed in advance: Drs. **Daniel Keith** and **Fabio Pinheiro** in appreciation of their prior service on the MSO Board, and **Steve Marshall** for his service representing MSO on the Council on Scientific Affairs. AAO CEO Lynne Thomas Gordon was presented a framed photo taken by Dr. **Dennis Sommers** in recognition of her upcoming retirement.
- 9) MSO members approved the 2024 budget and bylaw amendment for a full active member \$10 dues increase starting with the 2024 – 2025 AAO dues billing cycle.
- 10) Members were encouraged to save the dates of October 25-26, 2024 to bring their staff team to the next MSO Annual Session to be held at the Loews Chicago O'Hare in the Rosemont, Illinois entertainment district.