



Midwestern Society of Orthodontists

Electronic Newsletter Articles July 2015

A compilation of the news articles that were posted on the MSO web site in July 2015.

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President's Letter

Gratitude goes to each of you as MSO members for allowing me the privilege of being your president for 2014-2015. I wish to report that your MSO officers, board members and delegates worked diligently during our Ad Interim meeting, March 20-21 at the AAO Headquarters in St. Louis.

I would like to thank our dedicated leaders. First of all, **John Crawford**, our immediate past president, for his guidance and mentorship these last few years. We all had a part in enjoying a successful, informative and truly entertaining scientific annual session in the enticing heart of the downtown Chicago at the Hilton Hotel. **Brent Larson**, your MSO Trustee, continues to represent us magnificently and holds abounding AAO peer and leadership respect. Much deserved praise also goes to our right-hand man and president-elect, **Ara Goshgarian** for diligently spearheading the MSO's input and response for the AAO House of Delegates coming up May 15-19 in San Francisco. Secretary-treasurer **Ginny Mennemeyer**, is a superb asset to the MSO as she keeps our financial status running smoothly. Welcome to Missouri's Director, **Mark Dake**, for agreeing to join us and make our bench even deeper for the MSO. Thank you to **Steve Litton** who judiciously continues to assist the MSO by placing timely updates about our annual session and various other news and reports on www.msortho.org. Most importantly, **all of you, as our grassroots MSO members**, guide the MSO Board and we as officers with your Midwestern comradery, talent, grace and ever-ready precision to assist our great profession.

As I spent time with young and potential new leaders at the AAO Emerging Leaders Conference and AAO Winter Conference Scientific Sessions in Miami, February 4-8, I looked for those same wonderful traits in our future generation of leadership. They did not disappoint me. The MSO is rich in talented, community service-orientated and leadership-worthy, quality professionals. Please seek these young members out at your state levels and take them under your wing as their mentor. I am quite certain this is how the majority of us became active in organized orthodontics...with a gentle push!! MSO attendees included **Douglas Barden, John Foley, Katie Graber, Daniel Keith, Nellie Kim-Weroha, Ki Beom Kim, Matthew Larson, Jordan Poss** and **Todd Thayer**. **Brent Larson**, in his always thorough and dedicated way, presented an amazing Emerging Leader's Conference. Our young leaders now know exactly what the AAO does for them and, more importantly, what topics the AAO needs to make changes and improvements with to stay vital and thriving for the future generations of orthodontists. The main purpose of the meeting and subsequent pre-conference, post-conference webinars is to acquire feedback from our young leaders as to what the AAO needs to address in the near and distant future.

The AAO Professional Advocacy Conference was held in conjunction with the AAO President's-Elect Conference March 2-3 in Washington, D.C. Nearly 100 AAO members trained and studied the important "asks" that we would bring to Capitol Hill. We also

reviewed the many accomplishments that the AAO and members had been a part of on the “Hill” in the past years. Federal agencies have their hands in the daily running of our offices in many ways and the AAO, AAOPAC and COGA have worked diligently on your behalf to keep this regulation to a minimum and to promote legislative change to the benefit of our patients, practices and families. From this recent return from the “Hill”, I see clearly that there is a necessity to keep our AAO groups active and vital for our great profession. Thus, I ask that each of you consider donating generously to AAOPAC. If we each gave \$500, we could make a dramatic difference in our effectiveness at the Capitol. Other dedicated MSO colleagues who stormed the “Hill” include: **Melissa Bernhardt**, Iowa; **Mike Durbin, Ara Goshgarian** and **Spencer Pope**, Illinois; **Kevin Horner**, South Dakota; **Brent Larson, Todd Thayer** and **Mike Zakula**, Minnesota. Thank you all for taking time from your busy lives and practices to make a difference in our legislative landscape.

AAO’s Council on Governmental affairs, along with the AAO, is exploring ways to aid component and constituent groups with legislative or regulatory issues that arise at the state level. There is agreement that the AAO should more aggressively aid component organizations in light of recent proposals that directly affect the practice of orthodontics in states like Missouri, Maine and others. COGA, AAO and AAO legal counsel are reviewing the necessary legal protocol and potential vehicles for funding requests that could be made by individual states to assist them with their legislative agendas. This could potentially consist of a Legal Support Fund, such as the ADA holds, where states make applications for funds.

The 2015 AAO House of Delegates will be addressing various opportunities to assist our states. This also will include a resolution brought before the House to have the AAO and the Council on Communications develop a matching grant program which would support constituent and component societies to actively promote the AAO Consumer Awareness Campaign and expand AAO’s brand locally with funding at a \$3 million level from Excess Liquid Reserves. The AAO Consumer Awareness program is one of the most important initiatives of the AAO. The AAO would provide financial support to states interested in launching local/regional programs that focus on the CAP message and create value to all members. These members will represent the MSO at the AAO 2015 House of Delegates in May in San Francisco: **Ara Goshgarian**, Chair; **Deborah Lien**, Vice Chair, **Ross Crist, Jim Klarsch, Virginia Mennemeyer, Dennis Sommers** and **Kimberley Stafford**; alternates **John Kanyusik, Steve Marshall** and **Ryan VanLaecken**. In addition, **John Foley** was nominated to serve as alternate delegate and will serve as the new MSO member on AAO Council for New and Younger Members. Please contact any of these delegates with suggestions and concerns to bring before the AAO House of Delegates. The MSO is known for their thoughtful representation on the House floor thanks to all of your grassroots insight.

The RAISE bill (H.R. 1185) was the primary focus of our “Hill” visits and of our Professional Advocacy Conference. The RAISE bill is the “brainchild” of COGA and was

introduced on the House floor February 27, just days before AAO members stormed the “Hill.” 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 (FSAs) 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. It is an understatement to say that 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.

During our Ad Interim meeting in St. Louis, the following MSO Trustee Search Committee was appointed to select a candidate to serve as MSO's next Trustee to the AAO include **John Kanyusik**, Chair; **Jackie Miller**, **Mike Hipp**, **Kim Stafford** and **Dennis Sommers**. MSO membership will be electing a new AAO Trustee at the 2016 MSO Annual Member Business Meeting as MSO's current Trustee, Dr. **Brent Larson**, moves up the ladder to serve as the 2018-2019 AAO President. Interested candidates should contact John.

ABO President **Paul Castelein** announced that **Patrick Foley** from Lake Zurich, Illinois, was selected as their nominee for the next MSO Director to the ABO. Congratulations to Patrick for representing us in this important position with the ABO. The nomination will be presented to the AAO House of Delegates for confirmation during the 2015 AAO Annual Session. We thank Dr. Castelein for serving and generously dedicating the last eight years as our amazing MSO Director to the ABO.

We are thrilled about offering you, our MSO membership, staff and spouses/guests the education, exhibitor and sponsor benefits and amazing perks that our annual session in Rochester on October 9-10 have to offer. With the exemplary program, **BODY, MIND, HEART and SOUL**, featuring University of Minnesota and Mayo Clinic speakers, your MSO 2015 Annual Session Planning Committee has done a fabulous job. This hard working committee cannot be praised enough for their exceptional persistence and organizational skills. Our 2015 Annual Session Planning Committee welcomes you to Rochester. It includes **Arnie Hill**, General Arrangements Chair; **Fred Regennitter** and **John Volz**, Scientific Co-chairs (Mayo Clinic); **John Kanyusik**, Scientific Co-chair (U of Minnesota); **Nellie Kim-Weroha** and **Denise Schouweiler**, Social Program and Staff Program Co-chairs; **Jackie Miller** and **Kim Stafford**, Exhibitor and Sponsorship Co-chairs; **Kevin Denis**, Registration Chair and **Kristi Burmeister**, Executive Director. Those of you, who have planned a meeting before with the MSO know how intimidating that task can be and you also know that without our stellar Executive Director, we would most certainly be driving the wrong way in every direction. Thank you, Kristi, for keeping us on the straight and narrow path to successful and productive annual sessions.

In Rochester, you will hear a wide variety of orthodontic and healthcare issues related to the overall care of your patients, staff and family by Mayo Clinic Consultants and University of Minnesota Specialists. (Members are still raving about Dr. **Arnie Hill's** 1997 MSO Annual Session in Rochester!) Hear world-renowned cardiologists, psychologists, cancer specialists, endocrinologists, palliative care experts, orthopedic surgeons and more.

Friday's combined doctor, spouse-staff lectures include Mayo Clinic topics on women's health; pharmacogenomics and individualizing drug therapy to your DNA; stress-management and resiliency; heart disease and heart valve replacement without heart surgery; obesity in our children and the long-term effects on their health; women at increased risk for breast cancer; strategies to reduce the risk of all cancers; optimizing bone health across the life span; empowering patients in your practice and how do we take charge of our own health and treatment plans; understanding and helping others with palliative care, end of life decisions and compassion, spirituality and suffering; and more.

Doctor's Saturday Scientific Lectures include a lively program by **Brent Larson** on *Success, Happiness and Why Treatment Planning Matters: An Interactive Experience*. University of Minnesota specialists speaking on *Personalized Orthodontic Appliances, Where are We Headed and Why do We Need Them?*; *Enhancing the Patient Experience for Patients with Autism Spectrum and Other Neurodevelopmental Disorders*; *Oral Pathology for the Orthodontist*; and *TMD in our Practices Today*.

Saturday, separate staff lecture with **Amy Kirsch** who is back by popular demand from the 2013 MSO meeting in Kansas City! *Top Five Challenges in Orthodontic Practice Today* and *Ultimate Customer Service – Going from Average to Great!* After Amy's last talk with us in K.C., multiple doctors and staff came to us requesting that we have this dynamic presenter back soon. The MSO delivers!

As a benefit for being an MSO member, you and your spouse also have the awesome opportunity to Invest in your health with priority scheduling for Mayo Clinic's Executive Health Physical. There is power in prevention. Mayo is offering a fast-track to schedule an executive health physical for doctors and spouses in the time immediately before and after our MSO session or at a time convenient to you. We hope you will take advantage of this amazing opportunity while at Mayo Clinic.

Be sure to be there to honor **John Kanyusik** with the 2015 MSO Earl E. Shepard Distinguished Service Award.

Enjoy your colleagues and share the artist's work during a Friday evening reception at the Rochester Museum of Fine Arts. Network with reps at exhibit hall tabletop displays. Plus, for you art and adventure-lover guests/spouses we are hosting a Canvas and

Chardonnay art class, Mayo Clinic History and art tour and tour of Mayowood – home of Mayo brothers.

Please “talk it up” and join your MSO colleagues October 9-10 as we gather knowledge at scientific sessions; network with exhibitors and relax and enjoy great Midwestern hospitality!

Thank you for allowing me the honor and great privilege of serving as your MSO President.

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MSO Components

IOWA

Melissa Bernhardt, President
Chris Holahan, President-Elect
David Meyer, Vice President
Clayton Parks, Secretary/ Treasurer

The Annual Meeting of the Iowa Society of Orthodontists will be held September 27-28, 2015 at Hotel Vetro in Iowa City. Multiple speakers are lined-up to discuss various updates on orthodontic treatment modalities. Speakers include Dr. **Bill Kottemann** from Minneapolis, Dr. **James Vaden** from Tennessee and Dr. **Laurel Martin** from Longmont, Colorado.

At the last legislative session, the Iowa Dental Association (IDA) devoted considerable resources to pass the two remaining provisions contained in the Dental Patient Protection Act, “assignment of benefits” and full “external review” of denied dental insurance claims for dental patients. The insurance lobby was successful last session in defeating this effort. There was a provision for external review to allow for appeal when dental services were denied by a carrier, but the final wording was so poor that it offered virtually no benefit for the patient, since it allowed protection based on medical necessity only. The Iowa Insurance Commissioner notified the IDA that Iowa dental patients should not have the same “external review” patient protections that medical patients enjoy under Iowa statute since most dental insurance benefits are provided under a separate insurance policy not integral to a group health plan, and, therefore, are considered “excepted” benefits not deserving of the same level of patient protections.

A bill to allow licensure for retired dentists to perform pro bono work for a charity such as the Mission of Mercy has been signed into law. The bill was well received and enjoyed broad support, including from the Iowa Dental Board.

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ILLINOIS

Michael Durbin, President

Michael Erhart, President-Elect

Betsy Ulrich, Vice-President

Randy Wright, Secretary-Treasurer

The ISO concluded our 2014-2015 lecture season in April with an outstanding presentation by the **Dave Sarver** team. Our membership was encouraged to bring restorative colleagues who learned key points and important details on the planning and delivery of excellent esthetic dental/facial results. We enjoyed welcoming our friends and colleagues to this informative lecture.

We also welcomed MSO President **Deb Lien**, who encouraged our membership to make plans to attend the upcoming MSO Annual Session in Rochester. She explained the unique opportunities to experience the wealth of overall health and wellness information that Rochester offers. We hope that many of our members take advantage of this rare occasion to attend a meeting where we can improve our knowledge of our profession along with assessing our own personal health needs to maintain the vitality that is so important to our families, staff and patients.

ISO Board changes were announced at our April meeting. We look forward to working with new Trustee **Pranav Patel** and with **Doug Head** as our incoming Secretary/Treasurer. The 2015-2016 ISO Board members are noted above plus Trustees **Scott Prose**, **Eric Barnes**, **Marita Janzen**, **Randy Markarian**, **Bill Beam** and **Pranav Patel**.

Congratulations to **Paul Castelein** who was presented the ISO Merit Award this year by **Pat Foley**. Thank you, Paul, for the long-term commitment and meaningful contributions you have made to our profession. ISO is always proud to recognize our members who go above and beyond in supporting the practice of orthodontics.

Likewise, ISO is proud to acknowledge our outgoing President **Mike Durbin** for his outstanding leadership in our organization as well as numerous other positions he holds in organized dentistry. Mike's knowledge of important issues that affect our profession and his involvement with individuals and organizations across many facets of dentistry has greatly benefited the ISO. We look forward to following and working with Mike in his future leadership roles. In addition to his leadership roles in the Illinois Dental Society, the MSO and the AAO, Mike will be assuming the position of ISO Liaison to the Chicago Dental Society in the near future. We thank you, Mike, for your volunteer efforts and selfless commitment to our profession.

Tony Maoloni is our outgoing Chicago Dental Society Liaison after more than 20 years of service. The CDS Liaison is an important role in the ISO, working closely with the leadership of a large group of our colleagues whose interests compliment our own.

Through Tony's engaging personality and attention to detail, he has enabled the ISO to develop a rapport with the CDS that mutually benefits the two organizations. Thank you, Tony, for lending your talents as an organizer, leader and friend to the ISO for so many valuable years.

In mentioning the Chicago Dental Society, we acknowledge the ISO-sponsored lecture at this past February's CDS Midwinter Meeting. This year's speaker was the well-received **Luis Carrier**. ISO enjoys the opportunity to make a contribution to this important and perennially successful gathering.

ISO congratulates past ISO president **Pat Foley** for being appointed Director of the American Board of Orthodontics. We also congratulate Pat's son, **John Foley**, on his appointment as an alternate delegate from the MSO to the AAO House of Delegates.

Click over to the ISO website for photos of friends and colleagues and for dates and speakers for the 2015-2016 lecture series in the Chicago area at www.isortho.org/News

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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 following:

- The spring business meeting of the MOS occurred on Thursday, April 23, 2015.
- We have decided to pursue the same format to our fall meeting with a business lunch followed by a lecture/seminar. It was provided this year by GAC. The response to our first meeting following this format was quite positive and we hope to continue to encourage more MOS members to attend the business meeting.
- *A Smile for Life*. The local chapter is now well underway with several participating orthodontic teams initiating treatment for pre-screened candidates.
- The Canadian Association of Orthodontics (CAO) 2015 Annual Session will be held in Victoria, B.C. from September 17-19 at the Fairmont Empress Hotel.
- The 2015 MSO Annual Session will be held in Rochester, Minnesota, October 9-10 at the Kahler Grand Hotel.

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Minnesota

David Resch, President

Ronald Snyder, President-elect

Heather Carr, Vice President

Nellie Kim-Weroha, Secretary/Treasurer

Dr. **Regina Blevins** presided over the 2015 MAO Annual Winter Meeting on January 9, 2015, at the Minneapolis Marriott City Center Hotel. Dr. **Jaime Reynolds** spoke to the doctors on *Digital Orthodontics*. A joint presentation was given to the staff by Dr. **Thomas Everett** on *Making Your Image Shine as the Smiles You Create* along with Ms. **Denise Schouweiler**, who presented on new patient phone calls. Dr. **David Resch** will preside over the MAO Winter Meeting on January 8, 2016, at the Minneapolis Marriott City Center Hotel. Drs. **Thomas Southard** and **Steven Marshall** from the University of Iowa will present to doctors and staff.

There will not be a MAO Fall Meeting this year due to co-sponsoring the MSO Annual Session in Rochester on October 9-10, 2015. MSO president Dr. **Deborah Lien** and all of “us folks in Minnesooda” invite all of you to join this unique program with presentations that will be given by physicians, researchers and other healthcare specialists from the Mayo Clinic and the University of Minnesota on pertinent healthcare topics for yourself, family, patients and staff. In addition, Dr. **Brent Larson** will have an interactive presentation for the doctors on *Success, Happiness and Why Treatment Planning Matters* while Ms. **Amy Kirsch** will give a fun and informative presentation to the staff. We are honored that Dr. **John Kanyusik** will receive the MSO 2015 Earl E. Shepard Distinguished Service Award. There also will be fun activities planned to explore Rochester and a rare chance to have an executive physical exam at the Mayo Clinic. We encourage you to visit the MSO website, msortho.org, for more details.

Minnesota was well represented nationally this year at various meetings. Drs. **Deb Lien**, **John Kanyusik** and **Brent Larson** were MSO representatives from Minnesota at the MSO Ad Interim meeting in St. Louis on March 20-21, 2015 as well as in San Francisco at the House of Delegates. Drs. **Brent Larson**, **Deb Lien**, **Todd Thayer** and **Mike Zakula** attended the 2015 AAO PAC Conference in March at Washington, D.C. Drs. **Todd Thayer** and **Nellie Kim-Weroha** were selected to represent Minnesota for the 2015 AAO Emerging Leaders Conference in February in Miami just before the AAO Winter Conference. Dr. **Fred Regennitter** received the B. Dale Wade Award of Excellence from the ABO in San Francisco at the AAO Annual Session. Our executive secretary, **Denise Schouweiler**, was a speaker at the AAO Annual Session in San Francisco as second-place winner of the 2014 Staff Presentation Competition. We would like to thank Dr. **Brent Larson** as MSO Trustee to the AAO Board of Trustees. Starting in 2016 he will serve as Secretary-Treasurer for the AAO as he starts to move up on the ranks to be the AAO President for 2018-2019.

The MAO proudly supports the Minnesota Mission of Mercy. The goal this year will be to see 2,000 patients and provide \$1 million in patient care. It will be held at the Duluth Entertainment Convention Center on July 17-18. We encourage those who can to volunteer. Please visit mnmom.org for more information on how you can help.

The *Smiles Change Lives* program has continued to be strong in Minnesota thanks to all the generous providers that have signed up. We are proud to say approximately half the orthodontists in the state are participants and we thank each of you for your kind support of kids that really do benefit from the program. If you would like to be a provider, please go to smileschangelives.org or 888-900-3554 to sign up. Thank you to Dr. **Steve Litton** for all his time and efforts to growing this program in Minnesota.

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Missouri

Kevin Austin, President

Neil Kanning, President-Elect

Jeffrey Cavanaugh, Secretary/Treasurer

The last business meeting was held in January 2015 at joint meeting with the Kansas Society of Orthodontists in Kansas City, Missouri.

The Midwestern Society of Orthodontists nominated Missouri orthodontist, **Jackie Miller**, for the AAO's Humanitarian Award. She was announced as the winner of the award and it will be presented to her at the 2016 Annual Session of the AAO in Orlando. Congratulations, Jackie!

The next business meeting will be held Friday, October 9 at Annual Session of the Midwestern Society of Orthodontists in Rochester, Minnesota. It would be wonderful to see Missouri orthodontists support this meeting, so please try to attend.

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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NORTH DAKOTA

John Warford, Jr, President

Ryan West, Vice President

Michiel Nuveen, Secretary/Treasurer

The NDSO is pleased to welcome Dr. **Jason Burckhard** to our state. He brings the number of practicing orthodontists in ND to 19! Here is a little bio on Jason.

Jason grew up in Minot and graduated from Minot High School. He then attended Minot State University where he received his bachelor's degree. He received his DDS degree from the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry and attended the University of Missouri-Kansas City for his orthodontic residency. Dr. Burckhard has been practicing orthodontics since he graduated from his residency in August 2009. He most recently practiced in the western metro of the Twin Cities. He was also a consulting orthodontist at Children's Hospital in Minneapolis.

Dr. Burckhard decided to bring his orthodontic experience back to his hometown of Minot. He is excited to be back and looks forward to working in the community he calls home. In his spare time, he enjoys spending time with his wife and son and all of their family in Minot. He also enjoys golf, gardening and landscaping and following the Green Bay Packers.

We wish Jason all the best in his practice in Minot.

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WISCONSIN

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

The 2015 WSO Spring Conference was held at the American Club in Kohler, April 16-17. The conference featured Dr. **Aaron Molen** and his presentation, *Contemporary Technologies in Orthodontic Treatment* and Dr. **Bill Dischinger**'s presentation, *Efficient Class 2 Treatment*. Entertainment provided by Dr. **John Crawford**'s jazz quartet during the evening reception was thoroughly enjoyed by attendees and their guests.

The 2015 WSO Fall Conference will feature Dr. **Vince Kokich, Jr.**'s presentation *The Interdisciplinary Team: Creating Esthetic Success in the Ortho-Restorative Patient*. The meeting will be held at the Bridgewood Resort in Neenah, Wisconsin, September 13-14.

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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Graduate School Programs

UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

The Class of 2015 has graduated and we wish them all the best as they begin their careers as orthodontists! The graduates include Dr. **Taylor Varner** practicing in Virginia; Dr. **Chris Hartman**, practicing in Iowa with **Central Iowa Orthodontics**; Dr. **Jessica Fuller**, joining the practice of Parks and Schmit in Cedar Rapids; Dr. **Kyungsup Shin** staying on here in the Orthodontic Department; and Dr. **Julie Wees**, practicing in Omaha with Dr. **Laura Low**.

We would be amiss to not give thanks to the adjunct faculty who make this all possible: Drs. **Matthew Croco**, **David Meyer**, **David Gehring**, **Tom Stark**, **Julie Wees**, **Suzanne Stock** and **Alison Ray**.

The incoming Class of 2017 includes five outstanding future orthodontists. They are Drs. **Gisela Borget** (UNC '15); **Sheila Daniels** (VCU '15); **Mason Dearing** (Oklahoma '15); and **Kevan Kadavy** and **Kate Zimmerman Finlen** (Iowa '15).

The Annual Session of the American Association of Orthodontists was recently held in San Francisco. The Iowa Orthodontic Department was well represented. The department was awarded the first prize at the CADABO Resident Case Display! Dr. **David Jones** was the attending faculty who supervised the patient's care in the graduate clinic.

The department is expected to move into our temporary remodeled clinic and office area in August this year. The finished areas in the dental school look amazing and we are looking forward to the same result!

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University of Manitoba

We welcome our new first- year residents Drs. **Paige Kozak** (Winnipeg), **Johanine Roos** (Pretoria, South Africa) and **Antoine Beaudet** (Quebec City). At the same time we bid farewell to our graduating residents, Drs. **Bobby Ward**, **Laura Duncan** and **Marc Aucoin**.

We welcome Dr. **Baha Atout** who has joined the program on a two-year term position. Dr. Atout graduated as an orthodontist in Turkey and comes with several years of orthodontic experience. He will be teaching in the graduate and undergraduate programs.

Dr. **Marc Aucoin** took part in the Charley Schultz competition; Dr. **Laura Duncan** was second place winner in the CDABO case displays; and Drs. **Alvaro Salles** and **JP Houle** presented poster research at the recent AAO meeting in San Francisco.

The program underwent a successful accreditation review in March.

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MAYO

Because of continued, rapid technologic change in orthodontics, a new digital scanner was acquired this winter. As a result, the staff, faculty and residents have been busy with training. Digital impressions will definitely improve our efficiencies with Suresmile and clear aligners.

Our program director, Dr. **John Volz**, received recognition from the Mayo School of Graduate Education by being named *Teacher of the Year*. This is his third education award and puts him into the Mayo Clinic educator's Hall of Fame.



Our chief resident, Dr. **Jeff Kohlmeier**, has been very busy this past spring. He presented his research, *MRI In Orthodontics: Metal Artifact Reduction Using MAVRIC in the Presence of Common Orthodontic Appliances*, at the Moyers Symposium, AAO meeting in San Francisco and at the International Society for Magnetic Resonance in Medicine meeting in Toronto. He was awarded his MS in May. Jeff and his family will be relocating to Wichita, Kansas and transitioning to private practice. He will be missed at Mayo Clinic. Pictured at left is Dr.

Volz awarding Dr. Kohlmeier Mayo Clinic recognition

Our second-year resident, Dr. **Eric Wu**, successfully completed the written portion of the American Board of Orthodontics certification examination taken in April. His research is well underway. He excited to be stepping into his new role as our chief resident.

Dr. **Eric Orbison**, our third-year resident, attended both the Moyer's Symposium and the recent AAO Annual Session in San Francisco this spring. He's a veteran of a Minnesota winter and making exceptional progress in the clinic

In July Dr. **Peini Zhu** will begin her training. Dr. Zhu attended the University of Pittsburg. She also has a degree in dental hygiene. We are pleased that she successfully matched with our Program. The faculty is grateful to these young people for coming to learn with us.

An outstanding program awaits you this fall, October 9-10, 2015, at the MSO Annual Session at the Kahler Grand Hotel Rochester, Minnesota. Dr. **Deb Lien** and her team have put together a superb group of Mayo Clinic physicians as well as University of Minnesota faculty for an amazing educational opportunity.

We had 33 residents, alumni, faculty and spouses attend this year's Mayo alumni dinner in San Francisco. We are indebted to our alumni for their continuing support.

Have a great summer!

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UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

The University of Minnesota's class of 2015 graduated on Thursday evening, June 11, at the McNamara Center on the East Bank Campus in Minneapolis. Dr. **Kelley Gyllenhaal** will become an associate in the practice of Drs. **Lee** and **Katie Graber** in the Chicago area. Kelley grew up in that area so she feels very fortunate to be heading back into the neighborhood. Dr. **Christine Hammer** also will return to familiar surroundings as she joins the practice of Dr. **Chris Carlson** in Duluth, Minnesota. In central Minnesota, Dr. **Kyle Knudsen** joins the practice of Dr. **Rebecca Hanson** in the St. Cloud area. Perhaps moving into the most familiar setting of all is Dr. **Chad Larson**, who will associate with Dr. **Nellie Kim-Weroha** and his father, Dr. **Brent Larson**, in their Rochester, Minnesota, offices.

Moving a little further from Minneapolis, Dr. **Danae Brownrigg** will start her own practice in the Ottawa, Canada, metropolitan area. She will begin as an independent contractor in two general dental offices while she sorts out the details and logistics of a startup practice. Dr. **Rebecca Schnitt** plans to practice in the Bay Area of San Francisco. She has not yet finalized her plans and would be open to any suggestions from our readership! All the residents completed their research projects in preparation for their master's degrees, no small feat in a 24-month program. It is with a little bit of sadness and a lot of excitement that we wish them all happiness and success in their future lives in orthodontics.

Our faculty is very stable at present, with six full-time and ten adjunct faculty members. One of our full-time faculty members, Dr. **Kim Mansky**, is a bone biologist and oversees several master's research projects each year in her lab. While she doesn't get as many media pitches from us as do her orthodontic colleagues, she more than pulls her weight on our full-time roster. Our program would certainly be diminished without her and I can't thank her enough for all she brings to our program in the way of research and teaching support.

This past April, we were fortunate to have Dr. **Sandra Tai** spend an eight-hour day teaching our twelve residents. Sandy practices in Vancouver, British Columbia, and is an internationally recognized teacher in Invisalign techniques. Sandy's daughter, **Charlene**, is a second-year resident here and Dr. Tai senior herself graduated from the University of Minnesota's orthodontic program. Our first-year class attended the Moyers Symposium in Ann Arbor in March and both classes were able to attend the AAO meeting in San Francisco. These are very special events for the residents, and we have Dr. **Steve Litton** to thank for organizing a very superb and generous alumni fund to help defray the cost of the conferences.

Drs. **Thorsten Grünheid**, **John Beyer** and **Brent Larson** have been very busy mentoring research and publishing articles from those projects. Here is a list of articles they have published since our last newsletter:

Grünheid T; Gaalaas S; Hamdan H; Larson BE, *Effect of clear aligner therapy on the buccolingual inclination of mandibular canines and the intercanine distance*. Angle Orthod. In Press 2015

Hamdan H, Grünheid T, Larson BE, *Effect of fixed orthodontic treatment on the buccolingual inclination of mandibular canines: a CBCT study*. Orthod Craniofacial Res, in press, DOI: 10.1111/ocr.12092, 2015

Grünheid T, Sudit GN, Larson BE, *Debonding and adhesive remnant cleanup: an in vitro comparison of bond quality, adhesive remnant cleanup, and orthodontic acceptance of a flash-free product*. Eur J Orthod doi: 10.1093/ejo/cju080 2014.

Grünheid T, McCarthy S, Larson BE, *Clinical use of a direct chairside oral scanner: an assessment of accuracy, time, and patient acceptance*. Am J Orthod Dentofacial Orthop 146: 673–682, 2014.

Grünheid T, Larson BE, *Repeated bracket bonding: conventional or self-etching primers?* J World Fed Orthod, 3:e102–105, 2014.

Larson BE. *Cone-beam computed tomography is the imaging technique of choice for comprehensive orthodontic assessment*. Northwest Dentistry, 93:17-20, 2014.

Grünheid T, Patel N, De Felipe NL, Weyd A, Gaillard PR, Larson BE, *Accuracy, reproducibility, and time efficiency of dental measurements using different technologies*. Am J Orthod Dentofacial Orthop, 145:157–164, 2014.

Grünheid T, De Felipe NL, Wey A, Gaillard PR, Larson BE, Patel N. *Author's Response*. Am J Orthod Dentofacial Orthop. 145(5):550–551, 2014.

Larson B, Langsjoen E, Grauer D. *Resident's Journal Review*. Am J Orthod Dentofacial Orthop 145:422–424, 2014.

Pliska B, Fuchs R, Beyer JP, Larson BE. *Effect of applied moment on resistance to sliding among esthetic self-ligating brackets*. Angle Orthod 84:134–139, 2014.

Dr. **Nam-Ki Lee** of Seoul, Korea, is doing a sabbatical here at the University Of Minnesota Division Of Orthodontics. He is pursuing clinical research on orthognathic surgery and “surgery first” concepts. His family is also with him in Minneapolis and will be able to enjoy our famous Minnesota summer and fall outdoor season this year before returning to Seoul in December.

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UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA

Student Updates

December 2014 Graduates

Jeffrey Rector – practicing Bozeman, Montana

Nima Rohan – practicing in Dallas, Texas

Jared Schoettger – practicing in Lincoln, Nebraska

Graduating in 2015

Khanh Luong (LSU)

Chris Schultz (UNMC)

Jason Scott (UCLA)

Graduating in 2016

Payam Ishani Afousi (UCSF)

Brian Luong (Harvard)

Emily Tschetter (UNMC)

Class of 2017

July 1, 2015 will be the first day of orientation, classes, clinical practice and research for the future Class of 2017. We are happy to welcome the following candidates who have been matched with our program:

Leslie Ellingson (UNMC College of Dentistry)

Kelsey Riffel (University of Missouri, Kansas City)

Jacob Stadiem (Midwestern University, Glendale, AZ)

December 2014 Graduation



Left to Right: Sheela Premaraj (Assistant Professor), Brian Luong, Payam Ishani Afousi, Nima Rohani, Jarred Schoettger, Sundaralingam Premaraj (Graduate Program Director), Jeff Rector, Janet Guthmiller (Dean College of Dentistry), Khanh Luong, Christopher Schultz, Jason Scott and Emily Willett.

Program Re-Accreditation

A Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) site visit team visited the college and program from October 21-23, 2014. At its February 2015 meeting CODA adopted a resolution to continue the program's accreditation classification of "approval without reporting requirements." The program site visitor was impressed with the strengths of our program in the following areas: excellent clinical and didactic education, excellent facilities and research opportunities and resident involvement in research.

Awards and honors

- In March 2015 Dr. **Sundaralingam Premaraj** successfully completed the 2014 ADEA Leadership Institute.
- 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. She was among more than 20 new dentists registered for the conference to receive this award.

Publications

Hua Y, Gu L, Premaraj S, Zhang X (2015) *Influence of interphase on mechanical behavior of silica/epoxy resin nanocomposites*, Materials, in Press.

Willett ES, Beatty MW (2015) *Outdoor weathering of facial prosthetic elastomers differing in durometer hardness*. The Journal of Prosthetic Dentistry, 113(3):228-235.

Grants and Research Activity

Title: *Neuropilin-2 Axis in Docetaxel Resistance and Prostate Cancer Bone Metastasis*

Funding: DHHS/NIH/NCI (1R01CA182435-01A1)

Date: 02/01/2015 - 01/31/2020

Co-Investigators: **Sundaralingam Premaraj**, (PI: **Kaustubh Datta**)

Sundaralingam Premaraj

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SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY

Fourteen residents graduated in December of 2014 and they have scattered across the U.S. and abroad and are expected to serve their patients and specialty admirably.

The orthodontic program at The Center for Advanced Dental Education of Saint Louis University welcomes 14 new graduates students this June. They include Drs:

Lisa Alford	University of Missouri Kansas City
Karim Allahdina	University of Texas San Antonio
Daniel Areepong	A.T. Still University
Kenneth Edwards	Midwestern University Arizona
Bryan Ganim	University of Louisville
Stephen Hemphill	Baylor College of Dentistry
Sung Kim	University of Michigan
Page Pfeffer	University of Pittsburgh
Thin Pham	Baylor College of Dentistry
Bhudsadee Saenghirunvattana	Chulalongkorn University
Erin Syzdek	Southern Illinois University
Brandon Tivis	Baylor College of Dentistry
Irish Abigail Tongco	University of Florida
Yi Yang	Baylor College of Dentistry

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 Drs. **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.

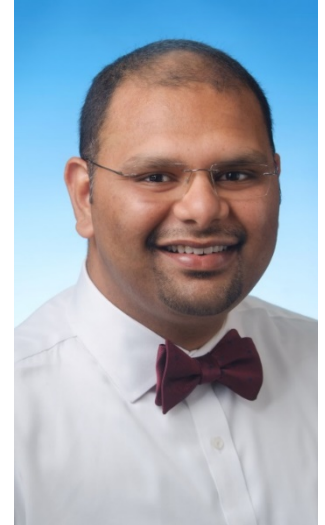
In addition, the SLU orthodontic program has a number of guest speakers arranged for the summer and fall of 2015. All MSO students and faculty are encouraged to look at the schedule on our website (it is updated periodically) and if they find a presentation they would like to attend, please let us know.

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University of Missouri - Kansas City

Our Congratulations to UMKC faculty Dr. **Shankar Rengasamy Venugopalan** for receiving 2015 AAOF and AAO Awards. Dr. Venugopalan has wasted no time making his UMKC presence felt at a national level. Firstly, Shankar has been awarded an Orthodontic Faculty Development Award from the American Association of Orthodontists Foundation. His 4-part application 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*. Following this terrific news, it has been announced by the steering committee of the American Association of Orthodontists Task Force for the Recruitment and Retention of Faculty to award Dr. Venugopalan an AAO sponsorship to attend the 2015 Academy of Academic Leadership Program in Atlanta, Georgia. The goals of this program are “to help participants refine teaching skills that will enhance the quality of their interactions with students and develop other skills that will facilitate confidence, job satisfaction and professional growth in the academic environment.” Congratulations Shankar!



We are excited to announce that Dr. **Vesna-Lea Sustiguer Ferrer**, DMD & Orthodontic Certificate (Manila Central University), PhD (University of Connecticut Health Center) and Orthodontic Certificate (University of Nebraska Medical Center) has joined our department as a Clinical Assistant Professor. Dr. Ferrer received her dental and orthodontic education in the Philippines, worked in private practice there, then came to the USA and graduated with a PhD on the topic, *Dlx Genes in Mineralization Using Murine Models*. Next, she lived in Lincoln, Nebraska, where she completed the Advanced Education in Orthodontics & Dentofacial Orthopedics program. For the past 2.5 years, Dr. Ferrer has been working as an orthodontist based in San Antonio, Texas.

Dr. Ferrer has previous teaching experience at her alma mater, Manila Central University in the Philippines. She also spent two years as a research fellow at Niigata University in Japan. We are grateful that she has decided to share her clinical, teaching and research experiences with us here at UMKC. To start out at the SOD, Dr. Ferrer will be teaching primarily in the pre-doctoral orthodontic program.

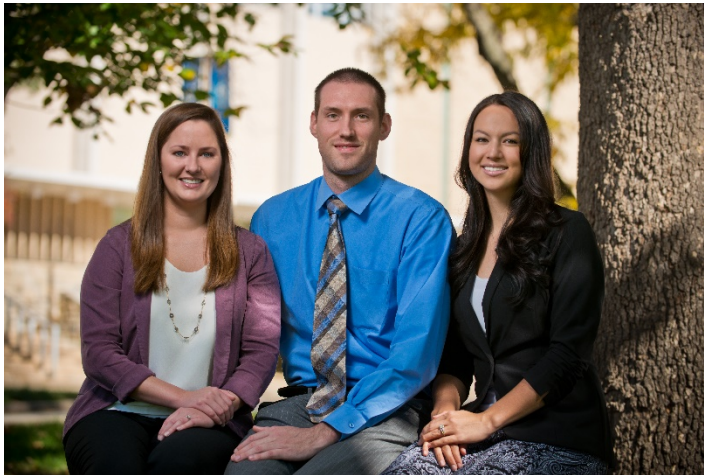
We are pleased to note that it has been a banner year of recognition by the profession for UMKC Alum Dr. **Fred Regennitter**. In April, during the annual Midwest Dental Convention in Kansas City, Fred was recognized by the UMKC Orthodontic Alumni Association as the 2015 Orthodontist of the Year. During the 2015 American Association

of Orthodontists meeting in San Francisco, a gathering of +250 congregated at the Marquis Marriot Hotel for the American Board of Orthodontics annual luncheon meeting. At this time, the ABO recognized him as an exemplary senior clinician and Diplomate who demonstrated exceptional dedication to orthodontics through clinical excellence and devotion to teaching in the image of Dr. **Dale Wade**. Congratulations Fred and thank you for a lifetime of dedication to the profession.



Left: Dr. Nellie Kim-Weroha, 2014-2015 President of the UMKC Orthodontic Alumni Association, officiated the ceremony which awarded Dr. Fred Regennitter the title of 2014 UMKC Orthodontist of the Year.

Right: Dr. Paul T. Castelein, president of the American Board of Orthodontics, presents Dr. Fred Regennitter with the Dale B. Wade Award of Excellence in Orthodontics



The success of our recently graduated residents was celebrated during our graduation gala held in December 11, 2014. Some 60+ family, residents, staff and faculty gathered to honor Drs. **Brittany Carpenter** (L), **Michael Ponikvar** (C), and **Lori Tima** (R). Brittany is practicing in Hot Springs, Arkansas; Michael in Belleville Ontario, Canada; and Lori in Gillette Wyoming.

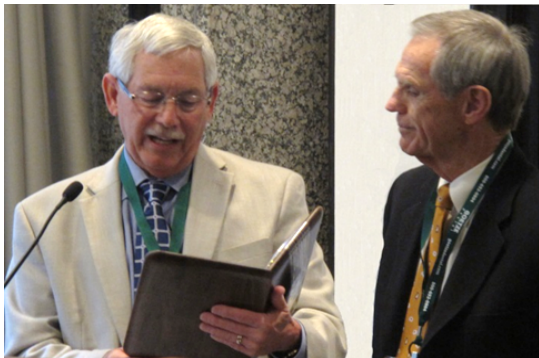
Congratulations to our newest orthodontic alums.

On Friday, June 5 more than 30 guests attended the 7th Annual Blackwell Lecture. Dr. **Nan Hatch** was our invited speaker. Nan is an Associate Professor in the Department of Orthodontics and Pediatric Dentistry, University of



Michigan. Her lecture focused on the biology of tooth movement, and how the coming age of personalized and precision therapies will involve biomarkers. These biomarkers can inform the practitioner concerning treatment efficacy, velocity of tooth movement and susceptibility for root resorption. This lecture series was established in 2008, in recognition and honor of Dr. **Dan L. Blackwell** for years of dedication and service to the orthodontic profession and the UMKC School of Dentistry, Department of Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics.

A dedication ceremony was held on Friday December 12, 2014 in Room 364 of the UMKC School of Dentistry to recognize the legacy of Dr. **George Muehlebach**. He was a part-time clinical instructor in the Department of Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics for over 30 years until his untimely death in 2005. He was much beloved as an instructor by all the residents he came in contact with and much admired by his colleagues. Fundraising, spearheaded by the Tweed Study Club of the Midwest and involving the donations from many alumni and friends made this state-of-the-art seminar room possible. The ceremony was attended by Dr. Muehlebach's wife and many of his children and their families plus former colleagues and residents. Also on hand were current UMKC staff, residents and faculty. The Department gratefully acknowledges donors and all of those who helped to facilitate the fund-raising, design, renovations, and equipment installation for the Dr. George Muehlebach Seminar Room.



We regret to report that Dr. **Don Thompson** has retired as our UMKC Orthodontic Clinic Director. Don has contributed to the education of many residents during his teaching career. Dr. **Jim Osborne**, our long serving director of the UMKC Orthodontic Alumni Association, has graciously taken over the duties as clinic director.

Dr. Jim Osborne (left), newly appointed Orthodontic Clinic Director, and Dr. Don Thompson (right), retiring as faculty and director of clinic operations, UMKC Department of Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics.

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 and research related activities. Drs. **Laura Iwasaki** and **Jeff Nickel** continue their service obligations as reviewers of grant applications submitted to a variety of NIDCR study sections and the AAOF. They are the principal investigators of a \$3 million dollar award from the NIH. 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 two awards from the AAOF. Firstly, an Education Innovation Award provides funding to bring together investigators

from the Universities of Alberta, Connecticut, Kentucky, Michigan, Missouri-Kansas City and North Carolina plus Virginia Commonwealth University. The project is in its second phase and aims to improve the mentoring of and networking between orthodontic faculty. Secondly, it was recently announced that Drs. Nickel and Iwasaki, together with faculty members from the Universities of Kentucky and North Carolina and the Oregon Health Sciences University, were granted year two funding of an AAOF Center Award. With the help of this award plus the support of the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB), this collaborative group is currently arranging the 2016 Consortium on Orthodontic Advancements in Science and Technology (COAST) Innovators' Workshop to be held in West Palm Beach, Florida, September 8-11, 2016. This workshop's goal is to facilitate the development of collaborations and communications amongst orthodontic clinicians, educators, researchers and people from industry. The MSO community is invited to attend.

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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 an aggregate of just over \$1 million in funding, with a total of \$715,000 budgeted.

The following represents the types of proposals submitted, all of which were encouraged this year:

- Junior Faculty
 - Orthodontic Faculty Development Fellowship Awards (OFDFA)
 - Postdoctoral Fellowship Award (PFA)
 - Biomedical Research Awards (BRA)
- Residents and Part-Time Faculty
 - Research Aid Awards (RA)
- Collaborative Awards
 - Center Awards (CA)

Among those funded were the following from the MSO:

- Orthodontic Faculty Development Fellowship Awards (OFDFA):
 - Dr. **Shankar Rengasamy Venugopalan** – University of Missouri-Kansas City, *Willie and Earl Shepard Fellowship Award (Most Meritorious)*
- Biomedical Research Award (BRA)
 - Dr. **Phimon Atsawasuwon** – University of Illinois at Chicago, \$30,000

Other Awards Program updates are:

- The latest report on the AAO Foundation Craniofacial Growth Legacy (www.aaoflegacycollection.org) is now on the AAOF web site (www.aaofoundation.net) Select “Awards” from the top vertical tabs and then “Collections Project Update.”
- At the AAOF BOD Meeting in late February, the Directors approved an Educational Innovation Award (*A Novel Multicenter Faculty Career Enhancement in Orthodontics (FACEs in Orthodontics)*) designed to organize and deliver a five-year program focused on mentoring junior faculty.
- 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. See the 2016 Awards Materials, which are already posted on the web site.
- To date the AAOF has funded over \$10 million in awards designed to benefit the specialty of orthodontics, its practitioners and the patients we serve.

NAMED AWARDS

In addition to the establishment of the *Martin “Bud” Schulman Post-doctoral Fellowship Award*, recently their colleagues, friends and admirers have separately created the *Dianne and Fred Garrett Biomedical Research Award* and the *Robert L. Boyd Biomedical Research Award*, both of which will be offered for the first time next funding round. For more information on these two most recent Named Awards, see the “News” tab on the Foundation web site (www.aaofoundation.net), or contact **Robert Hazel** AAOF EVP, at 800-4242-2841, Ext 546 or rhazel@aaortho.org.

WAYS TO SUPPORT THE AAO FOUNDATION

Primarily, there are two ways to support the AAO Foundation.

Continued Commitment to the Specialty®

One way is to pledge a minimum of \$5,000, to be redeemed over three to five years, or perhaps at the Regent (\$25,000) level, to be redeemed over as many as ten years. For more information, including payment options, go to the Foundation web site (www.aaofoundation.net) and then select “Campaign” from the top vertical tabs.

About one-third of all AAO members have pledged \$5,000 or more, and of that number 554 of us have pledged at the Regent level or higher.

Keystone Society

Another way is to include the AAO Foundation in your estate plans and thus become a member of the AAOF Keystone Society. For more information on how you might accomplish this, as well as to browse the Foundation’s electronic library on estate planning and planned giving, go to the web site and then select “Estate Planning and Planned giving” from among the top vertical tabs.

If you have not already made the Keystone Society commitment (and there are 370 of us who have), please give it your every consideration or call the AAOF EVP if you have questions or concerns.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

See the AAO Foundation website at www.aaofoundation.net for more information.

If you should have any questions, 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 Advocacy Conference was held March 1-3 and was preceded by half-day meetings of the Council on Government Affairs and the Political Action Committee. These meetings are held consecutively and both groups attend each others meetings. The COGA and AAOPAC meetings were on Sunday, March 1 this year and the Advocacy Conference was on Monday and Tuesday and coincided with the Component President's-Elect Conference in Washington D.C.

The AAOPAC has asked the AAO for funding to allow the PAC to interview and potentially contract with a professional fundraising organization to increase member's giving, so that we can significantly increase our effectiveness during the current election cycle leading up to the November 2016 elections. Both COGA and AAOPAC see this as a critical year relative to both regulatory and legislative pressure on our practices.

The AAOPAC recommended we raise the amount listed on our annual dues statement from \$250 to \$500. This would help us reach our allocation goal of \$500,000 for the 2016 election cycle. The election success rate for our PAC dollars contributed to candidates during the 2014 election cycle was 88%.

The Council on Government Affairs developed the following Priority List, which was the focus of our printed "leave behind" during our visits to the legislator's offices on Capital Hill.

- Support HR1185 (the RAISE Bill). It raises the \$2500 cap on Flexible Savings Accounts (especially a problem for big families) to \$5000, and it adds \$500/child for families with more that two children, and it allows our patients to roll over unused amounts into the next year.
- Repeal excise tax on medical devices.
- Remove barriers to high quality care (oppose mid-level providers and ACA).
- Adopt tax reform for small business and students.
- Advocate for restructuring Student Loan Debt repayment and deductibility.
- Improve children's dental health.

Current issues we are working on include:

1. We are looking at ways to recognize giving to the PAC and encouraging members to not opt out of contributing.
2. Make it easier to contribute on the AAO website (currently it takes eight pages of navigation to get to the contribution window). The AAO mobile app will have a single button to be able to contribute.
3. Establish a reliable State Captain List led by the President-Elect in each Component (State), and a member contact plan, soliciting PAC participation.
4. Focus on why it isn't a priority to give to the PAC.

Currently only 13% of AAO members contribute to the AAOPAC.

There has never been a more important time to contribute to the AAOPAC. Fighting regulatory intrusion, especially associated with the Affordable Care Act must be every member's priority. We need to control our profession and resist outside, third-parties who would establish our fees and police our work places. You cannot do this effectively alone. Our association's collective voice is critical now. Help make it effective by contributing.

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AMERICAN BOARD OF ORTHODONTICS (ABO)

2015 has proven to be a year of exciting changes for the ABO. Over the past six months, we have completed extensive research in an effort to learn more from our key stakeholders. Our goal was to determine our best strategic opportunities to increase interest in achieving board certification, both to protect our orthodontic patients and to support the future of our specialty. We surveyed and/or conducted phone or in-person focus group sessions with both board and non-board certified orthodontists, residents, advocates, educators and the general public.

In response to the results of the survey, the ABO directors took action with a new branding campaign with new creative elements and messaging was developed and rolled out at the Annual Session. Our new look and feel was met with enthusiastic response in San Francisco, where attendees had a chance to stop by both our booth and Case Display Room to see the changes, which include:

- A new logo and seal, with bold new colors, clearly communicating “board certified” on all materials, in lieu of “diplomate”.
- A completely new, easy-to-use website providing enhanced resources and tools for both the board certified orthodontist, as well as the general public.
- An on-line tool kit to assist our board certified orthodontists in promoting their certification, to include window clings, consumer brochures, office posters, digital downloads, seal and logo usage templates, email signature examples, suggested website copy, marketing insights, social media tips and sample press releases.
- A newly designed ABO lapel pin, certificate and frame, clearly stating “Board Certified.”

Please note that our previous ABO logo also is incorporated into our new materials, making the original logo relevant and acceptable. However, to be successful, we need everyone to transition to the use of the new elements as soon as possible, including office materials and updated websites. The sooner board certified orthodontists employ these new elements in their practices, the more successful we will be at educating the general public. We are excited with the direction in which we are headed and, more importantly, with opportunities to continue to evolve. Please watch for additional updates and improvements.

Our February 2015 Clinical Examination was very successful with the ABO certifying or recertifying 97 examinees in St. Louis. MSO members who received initial certification at that exam are Drs. **Cristiana Araujo**, Jacksonville, Florida, **Dawei Liu**, Wauwatosa, Wisconsin, **Amy Dustoor**, Chicago, Illinois, **Cleidy Arboleda-Lopez**, Glenview, Illinois, **Alison Ray**, Fairfax, Iowa and **Chloe Meier**, Ogallala, Nebraska. Two MSO members completed the requirements for their first certification renewal. They are Drs. **Katherine Graber** of Vernon Hills, Illinois and **Donald Routier**, of Hewitt, Wisconsin. Our next exam

is scheduled for September 2015 and spots are filling up quickly. Dates for 2016 are posted on our website, with exams being held in February and September.

The ABO Written Examination was administered April 14-17 at Pearson-Vue Testing Centers across the country and final exam results have been distributed to individual examinees. Written Examination statistical data will soon be distributed to Orthodontic Program Directors, along with complimentary gauges for their first-year residents. Dates for the 2016 exam have been announced and will be April 12-15.

During the AAO Annual Session in San Francisco, the ABO presented awards to the following recipients:

Dr. **David Turpin** – Albert H. Ketcham Award

Dr. **Frederick Regennitter** – Dale B. Wade Award of Excellence in Orthodontics

Dr. **John Grubb** – Earl E. and Wilma S. Shepard Distinguished Service Award

Dr. **James Baldwin** – OB Vaughan Special Recognition Award

Dr. **Jerome Sklaroff** – OB Vaughan Special Recognition Award

The ABO has announced the appointment of Dr. **Patrick Foley** of Lake Zurich, Illinois as the new director representing the Midwestern Society, replacing Dr. **Paul Castelein**. Thank you to Paul for his leadership and commitment to the ABO over these last eight years. Dr. **Eladio DeLeon** of the SAO will serve as the ABO President for the 2015-2016 year.

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 members from the MSO!

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

Kimsey Anderson, RMSO; President

Ken Hrechka, MASO, President-Elect

Paul Miller, MSO; Secretary

Terry Sobler, NESO; Treasurer

Eric Dellinger, GLAO; Senior Councilor

Bruce Goldstein, PCSO; Councilor

Robert Vaught, SAO; Councilor

Dan Rejman, RMSO; Councilor

Robert Moss, SAO; Immediate Past President

Michael Guess, PCSO; Councilman at Large

Perry Opin; Parliamentarian

John Wm. Carter; Historian

Howard Fine; Diplomate Editor

Michael Guess; Editor *The College E-Zine* and *Student Newsletter Editor*

The CDABO recently held several events at the 2015 AAO Annual Session in San Francisco. The CDABO prep course, Discrepancy Index and Cast-Radiograph Evaluation for the ABO Clinical Exam, were all well attended. Drs. **Dan Rejman** and **Bruce Goldstein** taught the courses.

The CDABO held their annual Awards Luncheon and served 200 guests and included four award presentations. The AJO-DO 2014 Case Report of the Year Award, *Nonextraction Treatment with Temporary Skeletal Anchorage Devices to Correct a Class II Division 2 Malocclusion with Excessive Gingival Display*, was presented to Dr. **Makoto Nishimura**. The CDABO's Executive Council Officers under the direction of the AJO-DO Emeritus editor, Dr. Dave Turpin, judged these case reports.

A total of 65 orthodontic programs participated in the College's Residents Case Display Program. The best Orthodontic Resident Case Report Awards were:

First Place: University of Iowa, Drs. **Julie Wees, Kyungsup Shinn, Patrick Brady, Justin Hughes, Christopher Wermerson, David Jones, Jed Arbon, Terry Schmitt, Christopher Hartman, Taylor Varner** and **Jessica Fuller**

Second Place: University of Manitoba, Canada, Dr. **Laura Duncan**

Third Place: University of Tennessee, Dr. **Joshua Wilson**

Honorable Mention: AT Still University, Arizona, Dr. **Jeremiah Sturgil**

New York University, Dr. **Jay Burton**

Tufts University, Dr. **Alana Bednarz**

University of Michigan, Drs. **Claire Fedore** and **Vina Zinn**

ABO directors presented the 2015 Albert H. Ketcham Memorial Award to Dr. **David**

Turpin; the 2015 Earl & Wilma Shepard Distinguished Service Award to Dr. **John Grubb**; the 2015 O.B. Vaughan Special Recognition Award to Drs. **James Baldwin** and **Jerome Sklaroff**; and the 2015 Dale B. Wade Award of Excellence in Orthodontics to our very own Dr. **Frederick Regennitter**. The ABO bestows this award upon an exemplary senior clinician and Diplomate who demonstrates exceptional dedication to orthodontics through clinical excellence and/or devoted teaching in the image of Dr. Dale Wade, a past president of the ABO.

Dr. **Perry Opin** was honored with the College's prestigious Samir Bishara Award of Merit. He has served the AAO, CDABO and the ADA in numerous ways since becoming an orthodontist. He has been a Diplomate of the American Board of Orthodontics since 1972 and is a founding member of CDABO. As Speaker of the AAO House of Delegates, he served on the AAO Board of Trustees for three years. Recently, in order to provide NESO with representation on the AAO Board of Trustees, he was elected to fill a vacated trustee position for a year. At the same time he serves as a Board member on the AAO Foundation and AAO Services, Inc.

Dr. Opin has served CDABO as a Council member and as president in 1993. He also served on many CDABO committees and continues to serve as its parliamentarian. He feels his greatest achievement has been the opportunity to practice orthodontics in Milford, Connecticut, with his son, Dr. **Gary Opin**. He has done all this while serving as Assistant Clinical Professor in the Department of Plastic Surgery and Dentistry at Yale University and as Assistant Clinical Professor of Orthodontics at the University of Connecticut.

Dr. Opin has received many awards, not least of all have been the 2008 Brophy Distinguished Service Award by the AAO; NESO's Joseph DiStasio Distinguished Service Award; and the Founders Award by CDABO.

The College of Diplomates 37th Reunion with Dr. **Kimsey Anderson** as President, will be held July 17-22, 2015 at the Ritz-Carlton, Bachelor Gulch, Avon, Colorado. The Scientific Program will focus on *Personalized Orthodontics and the Relationship of Genetics to the Future of our Specialty*. 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; and Dr. **Dan & Julie Rejman**, Fun Run chairs. Twelve hours of continuing education will be available. Registration materials will be posted at www.cdabo.org.

CDABO's 38th Annual Meeting will be July 8-12, 2016, at The Omni Grove Inn, Asheville, North Carolina.

In 2017 I will be President of the CDABO. The 39th Annual Meeting will be July 7-11, 2017, at the Resort at Squaw Creek, Lake Tahoe, Nevada. 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**.

CDABO will have a winter meeting on Martin Luther King weekend, January 13-15, 2017 in Nashville, Tennessee.

Non-Boarded certified orthodontists can attend one time to evaluate the meeting and, hopefully, this will convince you to become board certified and join our family reunion. The annual meeting is family-oriented. The scientific meeting is from 8am to noon and you spend the afternoon with your family. Twelve CE 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 wrapped up its semi-annual meeting on June 27 when we met in St Louis and hosted representatives from New York Life and Pearl Insurance. Recall that this former “Council” on Insurance has been reorganized at the request of the 2014 AAO House Of Delegates. There are now five committee members who oversee the endorsed insurance products that help protect members from life’s risks. The committee members are **Don Wilson, Normand Boucher, Brian Holman, Shawn Lehman-Grimes** and **Steve Henseler** as chair. The committee continues to re-organize for maximum efficiency. NY Life representatives reported that all programs are performing well and have had an exceptional year. All programs are financially healthy and they reported that the program’s expense ratio continues to run on the lower end of average, which creates great value for AAO member participants. Therefore, there will not be any rate increases once again this year.

Pearl Insurance, the endorsed programs broker, reported that past declines in member participation is turning around in part due to increased efforts to educate members on the benefits that they receive when participating in the endorsed insurance products. You will likely hear more in the coming months as Pearl increases its efforts to reach AAO members. Pearl and NY Life have proposed several new, innovative products to help AAO members insure against “life events.” The committee will continue to evaluate these products and make recommendations to the Board of Trustees.

If you are shopping for a change in any of your business/life/disability insurance products, I suggest that you check out aao-insurance.com or call a Pearl Insurance specialist at 800/622-0344. Let them help you make comparisons to your current policies.

As always, if you have questions please don’t hesitate to contact me.

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COUNCIL ON COMMUNICATIONS (COC)

The AAO Council on Communications (COC) met at AAO headquarters on May 29-30, 2015 to review the Consumer Awareness Program (CAP) and other COC projects. We met with the AAO's advertising agency, public relations firm and the research company that coordinates the long-term market tracking study.

The CAP is financed by a member assessment. The 2015 House of Delegates voted to supplement the CAP with \$1 million from reserves for the current fiscal year to increase our ability to reach consumers. This will continue in the 2016-17 and 2017-18 fiscal years also at the \$1 million-per-year level.

All CAP messaging sends the audience to mylifemysmile.org to learn more about orthodontic care, the difference between dentists and orthodontists and to locate nearby AAO members using the prominently-placed *Find an Orthodontist* service. This is how the national campaign benefits us as members on the local level. When we are "found" on *Find an Orthodontist* (the service was accessed more than 11,000 times in the month of May 2015), our names and contact information appear. If we have provided the AAO with our practice website addresses, those appear, too, and link back to our websites, where interested consumers can learn more about us and, hopefully, contact us for a consultation. If you have not given your website address to the AAO, please do so to get the maximum benefit of this important program.

Getting consumers to the mylifemysmile.org website is key, because that is where the CAP delivers in-depth education about AAO members as specialists, and why that is of benefit to consumers. The educational process begins with a series of images with captions. The photos feature people who appear in the AAO TV commercials and digital ads, serving as a visual cue that people have come to the right website. The captions say:

- "Want your best smile? Get the best treatment. See an orthodontist."
- "I go to my dentist for regular check-ups, but I went to my orthodontist for my best smile."
- "I thought I just needed clear aligners, but I really needed an orthodontist."
- "Your smile deserves a specialist. And orthodontics is all we do."
- "Your smile is special. Trust it to the specialist. Your orthodontist."
- "Only an orthodontist is an orthodontist. The specialist in straightening teeth and aligning your bite."

There is also a section called "What's the Difference between a Dentist and an Orthodontist?" at mylifemysmile.org/DentistOrtho. It features a graphic that, along with text, explains what dentists do and what orthodontists do.

The paid advertising schedule that was recommended for the 2015-16 fiscal year consists of a combination of digital advertising (websites, streaming services and search

engines) and cable TV (in the U.S., proposed networks are *HGTV*, *DIY*, *Food*, *Cooking* and *Great American Country*; a national Canadian network will be recommended as well as a French-language TV network; print ads are recommended in Puerto Rico). The majority of the investment will be digital advertising, supplemented by cable TV. The COC recommended that the Board of Trustees approve the proposed media buy. When approved, watch for information on aaoinfo.org in the AAO's *eBulletin* and *The Bulletin*, and AAO social media outlets, including *Facebook* and *Twitter*.

For digital advertising, the AAO buys audiences as opposed to buying specific websites. This approach, which uses sophisticated demographics and psychographics based on websites that individuals visit, is a cost-effective way to deliver our message to our target audience, which is primarily women ages 25 to 54. Our advertising agency continues to seek methods to get the AAO's message on as many screens as possible: TV screens, computer screens, tablet and smart phone screens.

The *What Makes Me Smile* commercials and ads created in the 2014-15 fiscal year will be used again in the 2015-16 fiscal year. The materials feature the AAO logo. It is to our advantage to make sure we each prominently display the AAO logo on our practice websites, in our practice educational materials, and in our offices so that local consumers understand that we are part of the AAO. If you need logos files, find them on the AAO member website at aaoinfo.org/practice-management/market-your-practice/member-logos (login required).

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. "How-to" information is posted at aaoinfo.org > Practice Management > Orthodontic Health Month. The *DOS Program* is active in nine states. To become a DOS provider, or to start a DOS program, visit aaoinfo.org > Practice Management > Patient Management > AAO Donated Orthodontic Services Program.

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 name and your patients on mylifemysmile.org, give your patients this link: mylifemysmile.org/-What_Makes_Me_Smile.

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), print ads, radio commercials, posters, direct mail postcards, Web banner ads, brochures and educational fliers.

The 2015 House of Delegates approved a three-year program to be funded at a level of \$3 million to support grants to component organizations to promote the CAP and expand the AAO's brand at a more local level. The COC was assigned development of a business plan for the grant program and a committee has been formed and has begun its work on this project.

The COC approved development of two new consumer/patient education brochures. One will explain the potential for adverse effects of soft drinks, including sports drinks, on teeth that are in the process of orthodontic treatment. A second brochure will explain the relationship between obstructed or narrow airways and malocclusions.

The COC holds monthly conference calls and will meet in St. Louis on November 13-14, 2015.

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COUNCIL ON ORTHODONTIC EDUCATION (COE)

Several COE members attended the ADEA meeting in Boston and attended the Deans' luncheon and the Orthodontic Section AGM where it was discussed how the SOE and COE can foster closer relations in orthodontic education. Inter-professional education was a significant discussion point and the important role which orthodontics has to play. Another issue of importance is medically necessary orthodontic treatment, with several COE members serving on this task force.

At the SOE meeting in San Francisco in May, another very successful meeting was held and issues such as assessing competence, the MATCH program and faculty development were discussed and debated. The new SOE Executive Committee was elected with Dr **Scott Conley** as President, **Richard Ballard** as President-elect, **Kelton Steward** as Secretary/Treasurer and **Jose Bosio** staying on as Editor. With Kelton recently having served with the ADEA Orthodontic section, his appointment to SOE will serve well with cross pollination between the two societies. The Educators' Conference next year will again be held on the Friday of the AAO meeting in Orlando, Florida.

The Educators meeting of the MSO will take place 9-10 October in Rochester, Minnesota. The COE will meet on Saturday from 1-3 pm. Please let me know of any topics that we should put on the agenda for discussion.

The next meeting of the COE will be on October 26, 2015 in St. Louis.

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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 March 1-2, 2015. COGA and AAO/PAC members joined the Presidents-Elect Conference attendees for a gathering of approximately 100 AAO members during the 2015 Professional Advocacy Conference. Highlighting the conference was Keynote Speaker, **Ari Fleischer**, former White House Press Secretary serving President **George W. Bush**. A joint President-Elect and Advocacy Conference Dinner/VIP Reception followed his informative and enlightening talk. On March 3, all attendees listened to congressional speaker presentations in early morning with Capitol Hill visits all day. Since Prime Minister **Benjamin Netanyahu** addressed the House of Representatives on March 3 as well, the Hill was extremely vibrant and in high scrutiny.

COGA discussed with AAO legal counsel whether the U.S. Supreme Court decision regarding North Carolina and the Board of Dentistry would likely change the landscape of other states. The North Carolina Dental Board makeup and how those members are elected is unique to that state where dentists were electing the dentist members and hygienists electing hygiene members. Plus, there was no direct state oversight and no governor-appointed members. The majority of states have specific government oversight in the elections and the process, including direct control of the Board of Dentistry. AAO legal counsel does not feel this will be duplicated in other states since the majority of dental boards and dental practice acts are written and controlled in their actions and, thus, the anti-trust component would not stand over those BODs. That being said, COGA and the AAO will continue to monitor this type of state-by-state activity. The first-ever AAO podcast can be downloaded from AAOinfo.org and addresses the North Carolina ruling if you wish to be further informed.

COGA, along with the AAO, is exploring ways to aid component and constituent groups with legislative or regulatory issues that arise at the state level. There is agreement that the AAO should more aggressively aid component organizations in light of recent proposals that directly affect the practice of orthodontics in states like Missouri, Maine and others. COGA, AAO and AAO legal counsel are reviewing the necessary legal protocol and potential vehicles for funding requests that could be made by individual states to assist them with their legislative agendas. This could potentially consist of a Legal Support Fund such as the ADA holds where states make application for funds. The 2015 AAO House of Delegates will be addressing various opportunities to assist our states.

The RAISE bill (H.R. 1185) was the primary focus of our Hill visits and of our Professional Advocacy Conference. The RAISE bill is the “brainchild” of COGA and was introduced on the House floor on February 27, just days before AAO members stormed the Hill. 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 (FSAs) 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. It is an understatement to say that 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, as of March 6, has 25 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.

AAO legislative counsel with Squire Patton Boggs will be advising on a vehicle to which the RAISE bill may be attached. Possibilities include the state Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) Reauthorization or the Medicare Physician’s Payments, Doc Fix. Our argument 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 would need an “Independent?? Economic Analysis” on the bill to achieve an official score and determine more specific cost to the government.

Our other Congressional “asks” of the highest priority included repeal of the 2.3% Medical Device Tax, the emerging debate over Comprehensive Tax Reform and easing the burden of Student Loan Debt. The AAO also joins other dental organizations in supporting legislation introduced by Rep. **Paul Gosar** (R-AZ), a dentist, which would amend the McCarran-Ferguson Act of 1945 (which exempted the health industry from anti-trust laws). The amendment is intended to restore competition among health insurance companies. Congressman Gosar’s bill is H.R.494.

The Medical Device Access and Innovation Protection Act’s, spearheaded by Sen. **Orrin Hatch**, (R-UT), purpose is to amend the Internal Revenue Code, thus repealing the excise tax on medical device manufacturers and importers. Currently, it is being held hostage by the fact that comprehensive tax reform was not being brought forward soon enough

in the legislative session. Representative **Paul Ryan** (R-WI) is the House Ways and Means Committee Chair and remains a key member in the tax reform process and a strong advocate for many of the AAO's concerns including the Medical Device Tax. 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.

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 and our AAO advocates explained that the high cost of education in orthodontics effectively prevents many current graduates from opening practices in less lucrative or underserved communities in need of these dental specialty services.

We discussed with our legislators that orthodontic practice is a dental specialty that is often hit by economic downturns, as families often defer what may be perceived as elective orthodontic treatment during tough financial times. Yet at the same time, orthodontic practice costs are among the highest in the dental industry. This results in orthodontic practices having the second lowest profit margins among dentists and all of the dental specialties, just adding to a recent graduate's inability to go into underserved and rural communities if he or she has also incurred significant student loan debt.

COGA updated the cover photos and content of information on the *Congressional Leave Behind* for 2015, which highlights AAO legislative priorities already listed in this report. Under the category of *Support Oral Health Initiatives*, we emphasize that the AAO is proud to be a financial partner with the Ad Council and distinguished members of the *Partnership for Healthy Mouths, Healthy Lives* coalition on a national public service advertising campaign that will help improve the oral health of America's children through oral health messages stressing prevention. Furthermore, under the *Pro Bono Care by AAO Members* section of the handout we specify that collectively, American orthodontists provide more than \$65 million annually in free or discounted care to U.S. patients in need. We state that some donated care is provided by orthodontists independently, and some through formal programs such as the AAO's *Donated Orthodontic Services* program, serving patients in nine states and currently expanding to more. Please see me if you would like a copy of the *Congressional Leave Behind*.

The next COGA meeting will be in Washington D.C. on September 8-9, 2015.

Thank you for the opportunity and privilege that the MSO has given me as your representative to COGA.

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COUNCIL ON ORTHODONTIC HEALTH CARE (COHC)

It has been my pleasure and an honor to serve as the Chair of the COHC this past year. The COHC has been very busy this year, as this report reflects. As a reminder, the COHC is charged with addressing issues related to access to orthodontic healthcare, insurance coding and third-party payer issues.

The Council met via conference call on Saturday, January 24, 2015. The next meeting is scheduled to be held on Saturday, July 25, in St. Louis.

One of the major issues facing orthodontists and our patients has been the inclusion of orthodontic benefits as part of the Affordable Care Act. Benefits are only provided in cases deemed to be “medically necessary.” This has caused a great deal of confusion for the providers, patients and payers. In order to address this confusion, 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. This task force was chaired by **Steve Robirds**, our COHC Consultant and included members of the COHC, as well as members of COE, COSA and members at large. Committee objectives included:

- Review of the current definition of Medically Necessary Orthodontic Care (MNOC) and discuss its relevance today.
- Standardization of how MNOC is qualified and administered across all states and the dental industry.
- Determine and propose the best method for qualifying MNOC.
- Establish that speech involvement or other extenuating circumstances such as bullying or sleep disorders impact the case.
- Tie the qualifying criteria to the patient’s comprehensive and overall medical care.
- Research and identify scientific citations that provide evidence to support concrete qualifiers, offering a better chance of acceptance by the dental industry.

As a result of these discussions, AAO representatives met with third-party payers from both the dental industry and the government sector on March 3, 2015 at ADA Headquarters in Chicago. The purpose of the meeting was to try and facilitate a standardized approach to qualifying and administering medically necessary orthodontic care across all states and the dental industry. Key outcomes of the meeting include:

- A frank discussion that was well received by payers.
- Payers stressed that they want to keep the number of cases considered medically necessary low (<15%).
- All payers attending the meeting expressed their support to standardize the criteria.
- Payers are looking to the AAO to take the lead on developing a proposal on the criteria to be used to qualify these cases.

- Payers have indicated they prefer the use of auto qualifiers and coding to adjudicate claims in lieu of the use of indices or numbers.

The task force will continue to refine these points and come to a conclusion that will be beneficial for patients, providers and the payers. Look for further updates in future *Bulletin* articles. Please contact me if you have further questions on this important and complicated issue.

Coding continues to be an evolving topic for the COHC. The ADA Code Maintenance Committee met in March and the COHC sent representatives to voice the opinion of the AAO. A few minor changes to orthodontic codes were approved and you can look for these changes in the next *CDT*. The ICD-10 coding crosswalk continues to be developed as a member resource. This will prepare members to be able to include diagnostic coding on dental claim forms in order to meet the deadline effective October 1, 2015. The codes were translated from ICD-9 into ICD-10 format by Ms. **Marianne Harper**, a coding expert. Preface and “how to use” sections are being developed and will introduce the publication and *Current Procedure Terminology (CPT)* (medical procedure) codes will be added in order to ensure that members are fully equipped to submit claims to both medical and dental payers.

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.

Enjoy your summer and again, please contact me with any questions or comments.

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COUNCIL ON MEMBERSHIP, ETHICS AND JUDICIAL CONCERNS (COMEJC)

While having lunch with a dental school classmate in my hometown nearly twenty years ago, my friend mentioned that one of our mutual classmates in the same city had ended his own life a month earlier. “No one ever told him that his results wouldn’t always be perfect” he told me. I did not know what to say. “He fell into the bottle and never could drag himself out.” Those words were profound then and have stuck in my head ever since.

For years **Peter Greco** has provided valuable insight to the ethical aspects of orthodontic practice. His April 2012 article in the *AJO-DO* ([ajodo.org/article/S0889-5406\(11\)01176-0/fulltext](http://ajodo.org/article/S0889-5406(11)01176-0/fulltext)) might have provided my deceased classmate something helpful in his struggles for perfection if he would have the opportunity to read it. The contents of the article might be misconstrued by some to serve only as an excuse for less than perfect orthodontic results. That is not its intent. My hope is, instead, that in our common desires to balance professional drive with realities of life that you will take the meaning of the article for that which it is intended: a reality check for all of us as conscientious orthodontists. I’m not sure about you, but I struggle every day with the precise same issues Dr. Greco mentions in this article. Maybe your struggles are a variation on the same theme.

Although we may each have once truly believed that we could ***always*** create perfectly cosmetic crowns, endodontic fills, dentures that fit, smooth proximal restoration margins and ideal Class I orthodontic results, if we have been around long enough, we will admit to have fallen short now and again. As Greco’s article points out, we should not use inconsequential imperfection as an excuse for mediocre results. Rather, we should always strive for the best result that can be achieved. But, when we do fall short, we can hopefully accept ourselves – and, when appropriate, those of our dental colleagues as well.

Hope you find this of interest.

MSO members may contact me at any time with concerns related to COMEJC matters.

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Council on New and Younger Members (CONYM)

Thanks to Rick Fuchs for his years of service on this Council.

Not much new to report from CONYM at this time. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

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COUNCIL ON ORTHODONTIC PRACTICE (COOP)

There is no report at this time.

Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

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COUNCIL ON SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS (COSA)

COSA held a meeting on May 15, 2015 at the AAO Annual Session. This meeting was to review COSA members' assignments for the 2015 Annual Session. During the Annual Session, COSA members judged 30 Charley Schultz Resident Scholar presentations and 38 Table Clinic presentations. COSA members moderated 28 Oral Research presentations. 457 E-Posters were available for viewing during Annual Session.

The 2015 Charley Schultz Resident Scholar Award winners were:

Basic Science Research Category

1st place: **Omer Fleissig** – Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel; Research title: *The Role of Natural Killer Cells in Orthodontic Tooth Movement*

2nd place: **Jonathan Francis** – University of Kentucky; Research title: *Screw Diameter and Orthodontic Loading Influence Adjacent Bone Response*

3rd place: **Heather Hendricks** – University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill; Research title: *Investigating the Etiology and Pathogenesis of Primary Failure of Eruption (PFE)*

Clinical Research Category

1st place: **Soleil Roberts** – University of Washington; Research title: *Midfacial and Dental Changes Associated with Nasal Positive Airway Pressure in Children with Sleep-Disordered Breathing*

2nd place: **Shailesh Bhandari** – Dr. NTR University of Health Sciences, India; Research title: *Evaluation of Rate of Space Closure in Piezocision Assisted Orthodontic Tooth Movement*

3rd place: **Kevin Chien-Hsun Lee** – University of British Columbia; Research title: *Incidence Study of Malocclusions in Children with Obstructive Sleep Apnea*

The 2015 Joseph E. Johnson Clinical Award for Table Clinics winners were:

Heather Hendricks – University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill; Research title: *Investigating the Etiology and Pathogenesis of Primary Failure of Eruption (PFE)*

Clarice Nishio – Universite de Montreal; Research title: *Expression of the Osteoblast Membrane Protein Bril in Tooth and Periodontal Tissues during Development and Following Tooth Movement*

Hunter Boss – University of Detroit Mercy; Research title: *Genetics of Teeth Angulation and Inclination in Patients with Overt Malocclusion*

Applications are being accepted for the 2016 Milo Hellman Research Award, the Harry Sicher Research Award and the Thomas M. Graber Awards of Special Merit. Applications for these awards can be found on the 2016 Annual Session website - click on the Awards and Competition tab: aaoinfo.org/meetings/2016-annual-session. Only the online application will be accepted for these awards. The application deadline is October 1, 2015.

COSA will be accepting online applications to present Oral Research, Table Clinics and E-Posters at the 2016 AAO Annual Session in Orlando starting the first week of August 2015. The application deadline is October 15, 2015.

COSA was asked by the BOT for a response regarding head gear causing sleep apnea. COSA response was that based on current evidence available conventional headgear treatment does not have any relationship with sleep apnea. Sleep apnea is a multifactorial condition most commonly correlated in individuals with a high BMI, retrognathic mandible or posterior airway obstruction from hypertrophic tonsil and adenoid tissue.

The COSA chair for 2015-2016 is Dr. **Jeffrey Nickel**.

COSA's next meeting is January 6, 2016 via video conferencing.

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