



MSO NEWSLETTER

A Publication of the Midwestern Society of Orthodontists

Winter 2008

Frank Miller receives Shepard Award

Dr. **Francis J. Miller** was honored by the Midwestern Society of Orthodontists in September in San Antonio as the 2007 Earl E. Shepard Distinguished Service Award winner for his career in orthodontics, medicine and volunteerism worldwide.

Born and raised in Hardin, Illinois, Dr. Miller graduated from Western Military Academy in 1952. After graduating from Saint Louis University and Saint Louis University Dental School, he served three years in the Navy Dental Corps before returning and earning his Masters in Orthodontics from Washington University in 1964.



Francis J. Miller

Dr. Miller served as an associate professor for nearly three decades and practiced with Dr. Earl E. Shepard for three years before establishing his own private practice in Washington, Missouri.

For more than 35 years Dr. Miller has been a consultant at St. John's Mercy Hospital in Washington and at Shriners Hospital for Crippled Children in St. Louis. For the past four years he also has served on staff at St. Joseph's Hospital in St. Charles. He was a founding board member of Four Rivers Area Vocational-Technical School, chairman of the Child Fatality Review Panel for Franklin County and co-founder of the St. Francis Borgia Regional High School

Academic Association. He served for 12 years on the East Central College Board of Trustees and was president of the group in 1996-97. He went on to study forensics and has been a forensic odontologist for the last 25 years.

Dr. Miller has held multiple positions in the American Association of Orthodontists as well as the Midwestern Society of Orthodontists, culminating in serving as MSO's president in 1993. He is a Diplomate of the American Board of Orthodontics, Fellow of the American College of Dentists and the International College of Dentists and also is a member of the World Federation of Orthodontists.

At the age of 63, Dr. Miller pursued medical school at the University of Health Sciences in Antigua. After completing his didactic medical studies in Antigua and clinical rotations at St. John's Mercy Hospital, he completed medical school in 2000.

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President's Report

Greetings to all MSO members and friends! As I start my term as president, I welcome the opportunity to serve you and our association. It truly has been a rewarding experience to serve on the MSO Board of Directors and in the officer positions of our constituency.

The MSO has an esteemed Board of Directors, and President-Elect **Brent Larson**, Vice President **John**



Michael S. Hipp

committee for their dedication, which made the meeting so successful. Past President **Jim Hugg** was present to serve as our parliamentarian and to install our new officers. The highlight of the meeting was the reception in honor of Dr. **Frank Miller**, Washington, Missouri, who was the recipient of the 2007 MSO Earl E. Shepard Distinguished Service Award.

The AAO will host its Governmental Affairs Conference on January 29-30 in Washington, DC. The conference will focus on member education and advocacy on the first day with the second day being devoted to Capitol Hill visits. To date, the following are attendees from MSO for the conference: Drs. **Steven Billings**, **Mark Dake**, **Mike Durbin**, **Eloise Garcia**, **Lee Graber**, **Mike Hipp**, **John Kharouf**, **Dick Perkins**, **Peter Spalding**, **Wendell Stuntz** and **Mike Zakula, Jr.**

MSO's Ad Interim meeting is scheduled for March 14-15 in Chicago. Dr. **Ara Goshgarian** will be observing at Ad Interim as the incoming director from Illinois. Dr. **Tim Dumore** will be the new director from Manitoba. Their terms start at the end of our 2008 fall business meeting and we welcome them to the MSO Board.

At the Ad Interim meeting we also will work on preparing resolutions and delegation strategy for the 2008 House of Delegates sessions in May. To date, the following are serving on the delegation: Drs. **Steve Marshall** (Chair), **Jackie Miller** (Vice Chair), **Babette Cohen**, **Mike Hipp**, **John Kanyusik**, **Brent Larson**, **Keith Levin**, **Paula Harre**, **Deb Lien** and **Steve Litton**. At this meeting there

will be discussion of a number of issues of key importance to members and their practices. Please remember that resolutions for MSO delegation and Board consideration are due by Ad Interim. If you have questions or comments, please feel free to contact a member of the delegation or your component director.

Dr. **Keith Levin**, Winnipeg, Manitoba, is preparing for his three-year term as AAO Speaker of the House, which officially starts in 2010. Thanks to Dr. **John Kanyusik**, Mankato, Minnesota, for his outstanding job representing MSO on the ABO Director Selection Committee which was chaired by Dr. **Lee Graber**.

I want to mention two upcoming award presentations. Dr. **John Casko**, Iowa City, Iowa, will be the recipient of the 2008 Louise Ada Jarabak Memorial International Teachers and Research Award to be presented in Denver at the AAO Annual Session. Dr. **Steve Marshall**, Barrington, Illinois, will be the recipient of MSO's 2008 Earl E. Shepard Distinguished Service Award to be presented in Iowa City at MSO's Annual Session in October.

MSO Bylaws were approved at our fall business meeting. The new bylaws are posted on our Web site and we encourage components to check to see that their bylaws are updated to be consistent with AAO membership changes.

Public awareness campaign statistics were e-mailed to each component president detailing how many times MSO members' names were given out from October 1, 2006 – September 20, 2007 for the AAO public awareness campaign. Dr. **Steve Marshall** reports that Illinois implemented an \$800 per member assessment to start their own component level public awareness campaign piggybacking on the AAO campaign to run in the spring. For further info, please contact **Pam Paladin**, AAO Marketing and Member/Consumer Relations Manager, at 800/424-2841.

The MSO 2008 Annual Session is planned for October 24-25 in Iowa City, Iowa. Please save the date for this unique doctor weekend lecture format. MSO members will receive registration materials by June 2008 or go to www.msortho.org for more information.

A special thanks to MSO members for their prompt response to this fall's e-mail survey regarding future MSO Annual Session options. Based upon the survey, the MSO Board has released the tentative hold on the space in Branson, Missouri, for a separate MSO Annual Session in the fall of 2011 and will, instead, combine the MSO required business meeting with the AAO 2011 Annual Session in Chicago. Members are encouraged to keep their e-mail addresses current with the AAO office for association updates.

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Trustee's Report

This season allows us opportunities to reflect back on what has happened this past year. From a professional standpoint, I hope you will continue to look to the AAO for important information and education by way of our publications and/or our regional and national meetings. I know of no other professional organization that provides you with as many benefits for your dues and meeting dollars.

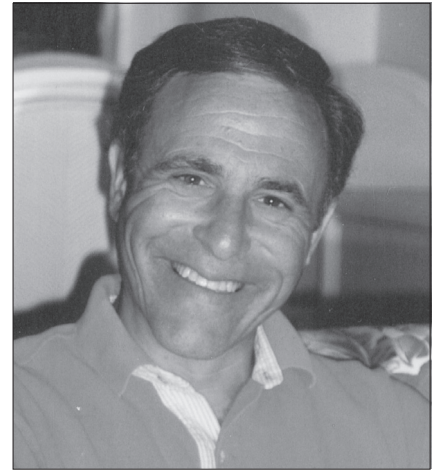
In this past summer's edition of the *MSO Newsletter* I discussed a number of approved or endorsed services. I encourage you to look at these on www.aomembers.org and consider these programs as you start the New Year.

One of the ways in which we are working to make information more readily available and pertinent to your individual needs was addressed through a comprehensive communications audit from an outside firm. They looked at all the means by which you receive information from the AAO and, as a result, recommendations were made and a special committee was formed. Drs. **David Turpin, Robert Bray, Myron Guymon** and **Larry Wang** reviewed the reports and advised the BOT to accept a transformation of the *Bulletin*, member and public Web sites, and the AAO "brand" and logo, with a goal of improving the integration of these information resources for members.

In this information age, content is critical and we will be adding a specialist to the AAO staff who has professional journalism experience in content development. Hopefully, communications will be more informative and entertaining and will have a flavor that encourages members to return to their AAO information resource on a regular basis. Additionally, the AAO logo, originally designed in 1979, will be re-evaluated in regard to its ability to communicate to the different audiences our organization impacts. Our advisors have suggested that the AAO logo "... must be easily recognizable and must be symbolic of a solid, trustworthy institution. Furthermore, the logo needs to be one component of a look and feel that belongs to the AAO." How this will be done may involve simply updating the current logo or the transition to a completely new one.

Of course, integral to any new "look" for the AAO as a professional organization is the concept of "branding." This is an important issue for the AAO, especially as we become more visible with our public awareness campaign and public Web site. We want to be sure that when the public thinks of orthodontics and/or they are looking for information or a referral, they go to the AAO Web site. Ideally, the public would search our Web site because they understand the AAO represents quality orthodontic healthcare. Branding of the AAO becomes an important concept in this changing world of healthcare choices for the public. Therefore, we will want a logo and brand that are "recognizable, original, faithfully reproduced across a

spectrum of media, easily animated, effective in a variety of sizes, strong in two-color, one-color...." For the AAO, we will want the brand to reflect certain attributes that our consultants list as: authoritative, indispensable, engaging, established, honest, known for high standards, technologically advanced, and both an art and a science.



Lee W. Graber

Web site development is very important with consideration of design and technology. COC and COIT have worked to improve the current sites, but external consultants now will help us take our efforts to an even higher level. Our communications consultants indicate, "...the sites will have to be friendly, ever-evolving, tailored to meet individual member and public needs, fun, entertaining, and they must connect with and engage all target audiences. With an ever-growing number of consumers using the Internet for health-related research, the AAO absolutely must perfect these communications vehicles in order to persuade consumers to visit www.braces.org versus any number of cosmetic dentistry sites. The new and improved Web site will feature intuitive navigation, some animation, Webcasts, blogs, news feeds, a robust search feature, a variety of language options and, ultimately, podcasts. In order to draw new consumer audiences, the appearance of the www.braces.org home page will change at least monthly; the copy will be concise and the design attractive."

AAO member communication will be focused on a weekly informative AAO e-letter. While we know this puts pressure on some AAO members to now become more astute in the use of computer-based communication technologies, there is no question this is the most effective means by which our organization can communicate in a timely cost-effective manner. Our membership surveys indicate that the vast majority of members are already computer-savvy and utilize these communication methodologies on a regular basis. Indeed, MSO and many MSO components have used e-mail technologies for timely communications with members for the past few years.

Our external communication consultants suggest that the weekly e-letter should feature newsworthy thumb-

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Conny Athanasopoulos
Bradley H. Jones
Deborah J. Lien
Thomas C. Lovlein
David M. Meyer
Matthew J. Pershing
Shelley Townsend-Hansen
Randy Wright

Committee on Communications

Stephen F. Litton, Chair

John C. Aamodt
Jeffrey T. Cavanaugh
Babette Cohen
Ross L. Crist
Richard P. Fisher
D. Spencer Pope
Teresa Salino-Hugg
Kimberley A. Stafford
Ryan M. West

2008 Delegates

Steven D. Marshall, Chair

Jacqueline M. Miller, Vice Chair
Babette Cohen
Michael S. Hipp
John S. Kanyusik
Brent E. Larson
Keith Levin

2008 Alternate Delegates

Paula L. Harre
Deborah J. Lien
Stephen F. Litton

AAO Web site: www.aomembers.org

800/424-2841

MSO Web site: www.msortho.org

636/922-5551

Membership Report

Current Membership – December 3, 2007

Active Members	1,030
Affiliate Members	5
Retired Members	291
Academic Members	3
Total Members	1,329

Active Membership by Component

Illinois	371
Iowa	83
Manitoba	20
Minnesota	160
Missouri	160
Nebraska	54
North Dakota	13
South Dakota	19
Wisconsin	148

Deceased Members

Arthur D. Cumming – Minnesota
John V. Drake – Milwaukee, Wisconsin
David G. Hickey – Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Thomas M. Holden – St. Louis, Missouri
Paul J. Johnson – Sioux City, Iowa
Kenneth C. Marshall – Dittmer, Missouri
Henry J. Mueller – Kirkwood, Missouri
H. Brown Otopalik – Fond Du Lac, Wisconsin
Robert V. Winders – Brookfield, Wisconsin

Active to Retired Members

David L. Diehl – Bettendorf, Iowa
Gail A. Diehl – Bettendorf, Iowa
David C. Ellenberg – West St. Paul, Minnesota
Joseph E. Kizior – Downers Grove, Illinois
Richard G. Lord – Champaign, Illinois
John S. Phelps – Makanda, Illinois

Robert N. Spencer – Cedar Falls, Iowa
Lloyd H. Truax – Rochester, Minnesota

New Active Members

Derek J. Bock – Cary, Illinois
Klint R. Butler – Grand Island, Nebraska
Neil Dunlow – Bellevue, Nebraska
Susan A. Erdman-Spain – Glenview, Illinois
Jeff A. Foster – Wausau, Wisconsin
Maria Therese S. Galang – Chicago, Illinois
Carrie E. Hedin – Chicago, Illinois
Christopher M. Holahan – Cedar Falls, Iowa
Matthew H. Israel – Chicago, Illinois
Nellie A. Kim-Weroha – Rochester, Minnesota
Marcos A. Lenza – Lincoln, Nebraska
Chad M. Morarend – Dubuque, Iowa
Marlene A. Sanabria – Iowa City, Iowa
Michelle Sarkissian Wulf – Council Bluffs, Iowa
Lynae D. Shear – Janesville, Wisconsin
Alexander J. Sierk – Bettendorf, Iowa

Reinstated

Wendy Sydlewski – Houlton, Wisconsin

Transfer back from International Member

Eustaquio Tako Araujo – St. Louis, MO

Transfers to/from MSO

Nathan G. Halstead – Transfer from PCSO to MSO
Amani Morra – Transfer from MSO to PCSO
Darren Rodabough – Transfer from PCSO to MSO
Karina Spivak – Transfer from MSO to MASO
Meagan C. Struby – Transfer from MSO to PCSO
Clay G. Vander Wall – Transfer from MASO to MSO
Alan D. Willis – Transfer from MSO to SAO

*Membership data from May 31, 2007 to December 3, 2007

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For the past 15 years Frank has used his dental and medical degrees to make regular trips to impoverished areas of countries like Honduras, Belize, Venezuela, Haiti, Peru, Kosovo, Mongolia and Cambodia. In between mission trips, he works at the local Washington, Missouri, hospital and dental and medical clinics as well as a dental clinic for the elderly in St. Charles.

Dr. Miller has completed multiple certificates of proficiency in many areas of study including small engine repair, welding, scuba diving, a private pilot license and law

enforcement training resulting in serving as a reserve deputy sheriff for Franklin County. In his spare time he enjoys gardening, fishing and waterskiing.

Most recently, Dr. Miller received the 2007 Gold Medal Award of the Greater St. Louis Dental Society. He and his wife of 49 years, Jacqueline, have six children and 11 grandchildren.

Congratulations to Dr. Miller on his many and varied accomplishments. He truly is a servant of mankind who brings honor to our profession.

Treasurer's Report

Cash Assets – As of November 30, 2007

Checking/Investment Accounts		President's Reception Fund	
Money Market	\$87,347.86	Money Market	\$1,448.15
CDs	\$200,252.20	Treasury Note	\$14,001.35
Mutual Fund Portfolio	\$102,839.84	Subtotal	\$15,449.50
Subtotal	\$390,439.90		
		Total Cash Assets	\$405,889.40

News and Notes about our Members

- Congratulations to Dr. **Reed Sanford**, North Dakota, who was the Guest of Honor of the North Dakota Dental Association in Fargo in September 2007.

Chair of the Department of Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics at the University of Missouri-Kansas City.
- Congratulations to Dr. **Carlin Wiemers**, Mankato, Minnesota, who received the American Dental Assisting Association's Honorable Mention Award from the Dental Assisting Program at South Central College, North Mankato, Minnesota.
- Congratulations to Dr. **John Casko**, Iowa City, Iowa, who will receive the Louise Ada Jarabak Memorial International Teachers and Research Award at the 2008 AAO Annual Session in Denver.
- Congratulations to Dr. **Laura R. Iwasaki**, Kansas City, Missouri, who holds the Leo A. Rogers Endowed Chair in Orthodontics, on her appointment as the

Congratulatory to Dr. **Steven Marshall**, Barrington, Illinois, who will receive the 2008 Earl E. Shepard Distinguished Service Award at the MSO Annual Session in Iowa City.

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nail sketches for members and the printed *Bulletin* should be mailed to other audiences. It is likely that the e-letter will be a fast read for members with direct links for those who wish to gain more information.

The *Bulletin* will change to a six-times-per-year, glossy, four-color magazine comprised almost exclusively of feature articles, AAO event information and original photography with appeal to non-AAO audiences. The bigger change will be the development of "The Bulletin Online" which will be an extension of the e-letter. This information will be updated daily to keep the site current.

Due in part to requests from the MSO, a special committee has been formed to look at issues involving insurance companies who deny recommended orthognathic surgery and its impact on the needed care for patients. Drs. **John Buzzatto, Mark Dake, Scott Hamilton, Gary Inman, John Harrison, Stephen Robirds and Paul McKenna, Jr.** have made some initial recommendations, but have been further charged with developing improved protocols for communicating with companies and state insurance commissioners. A report is expected at the February 2008 meeting of the BOT. I would encourage anybody who has specific concerns in this area to contact

Dr. Dake directly as he is our representative to COGA and this committee. For your information, we do have AAO representatives who meet regularly each year along with the ADA and insurance company officials to develop codes and procedures. While we often are unable to move the companies (which is frustrating), the discussions still can lead to improvements for patients and practitioners.

This past summer you likely received information on the AAO's position on SCHIP (State Children's Health Insurance Program) legislation. For the past several months, Congressional Democrats and Republicans have been engaged in a prolonged effort to reauthorize SCHIP. Congressional Democrats have sought to expand the program to cover more children who are low-income but whose families do not qualify for Medicaid. President Bush, along with many Congressional Republicans, has fought back against the expansion and insisted that the legislation needs to do more to ensure that adults and illegal immigrants are not enrolled in SCHIP. The AAO has continued a non-partisan position that supports the inclusion of basic dental health care for those who are eligible for the SCHIP program with orthodontic benefits for those who present

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AAO Council Reports

These reports are submitted by MSO's representative on each of these councils.

Council on Governmental Affairs

The AAO's Governmental Affairs Program has had several unique opportunities to advance the AAO's legislative agenda in Congress recently, including testifying before Congress and meeting with influential legislators.

Dr. **Robert Merrill**, East Wenatchee, Washington, Chair of the Council on Governmental Affairs, testified before the House Small Business Committee in August on the issue of late payment by insurers. He emphasized the negative impact that delayed payments have on healthcare providers, including increased paperwork and the requirement of additional staff, among other issues. Dr. Merrill also used the time before Congress to promote the AAO's views on dual coverage by primary and secondary insurers, an issue that has been successfully resolved in California and which the AAO intends to pursue in other states.

The invitation to appear before Congress was a direct result of a meeting the Council on Governmental Affairs held with Committee Chairwoman **Nydia Velazquez** (D-NY) a few weeks prior to the testimony. Rep. Velazquez requested the meeting in order to better understand the issues that face orthodontic offices, since many of them are small businesses and fall under the purview of her committee. Dr. Merrill subsequently was invited to participate in a less-formal "roundtable" discussion on healthcare reform, hosted by the Democratic House Caucus. He had the opportunity to seek common ground with the Caucus, while outlining the AAO's opposition to government-controlled, or "universal" healthcare.

In addition to meetings with influential lawmakers, the Council is preparing for the AAO's 2008 Governmental Affairs Conference, which will be held in Washington on January 29-30. The Conference will focus on issues of importance to the AAO and will come at the beginning of the 2008 legislative year, which will give the AAO a unique opportunity to highlight AAO interests at a critical time. It will feature one day of political updates and training for meetings on Capitol Hill and one day of meetings with legislators. The following MSO members are planning to attend the conference: Drs. **Steven Billings, Mark Dake, Mike Durbin, Eloise Garcia, Lee Graber, Mike Hipp, John Kharouf, Dick Perkins, Peter Spalding, Wendell Stuntz** and **Mike Zakula, Jr.**

The Council also is working to bolster its Key Contact Program, made up of volunteers who are willing to communicate from time-to-time with their Senators and

Representative on issues on which the AAO has taken a position. Occasionally, Key Contacts are asked to attend fundraising events for their elected representatives and convey a contribution from the AAO's Political Action Committee. This "grassroots" program is vitally important to the AAO's continued success in government relations, particularly leading up to the 2008 elections and potential healthcare reform efforts that will follow.

If you have any questions concerning the Council or are interested in becoming a Key Contact, please contact Mr. **Kevin Dillard**, the AAO's assistant general counsel, at 800/424-2841 or e-mail kdillard@aaortho.org.

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Council on Information Technology

Holiday greetings to all from COIT.

The 2008 AAO Technology Conference, "Raising The Bar," is open for registration and there still are spots available so PLEASE SIGN UP NOW. The conference is February 8-10 at the JW Marriott in Las Vegas. Check out www.aomembers.org for more details. This is going to be a GREAT meeting with fantastic speakers who are using today's technology to the fullest.

It is funny how we have gotten to a point where many of us feel pretty comfortable with our tech systems. We have made the jump to digital radiography but aren't quite ready to jump onto 3D imaging systems yet. You may be asking yourself if you really need to go to a conference like this one. Well, I've got a few questions for you.

- Are you getting the most out of your practice management system?
- Are there other management and graphics systems out there that might better meet your needs?
- Is 3D imaging ready to replace your pan/ceph machine?
- Are you spending too much time and money maintaining your computers?
- Is scanning documents (going paperless) difficult?
- Are your patient, financial and graphics data safe?
- Are you vulnerable to theft?
- Are you using the Internet to market your practice effectively?
- Are there technical systems that can help clinical effectiveness?

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If you answered “I don’t know” to any of these questions, then this conference is for you. Our goal is to send you home with knowledge that you can apply to the everyday operation of your practice, not convince you to that you need to spend more money on complex systems. This is going to be a small conference and we are going to cut off the registration at 650. Yet, there will be 57 technical exhibits with all of the major companies present to give you hands-on, one-on-one time to really delve into the questions that can’t be addressed when thousands of people are fighting for their attention.

To keep with the fresh approach to this conference, we are providing a great opportunity to share ideas with your peers. Maybe you are the technical guru that we are looking for to enlighten the rest of us. We are reserving time in the program on both days for what we are labeling “Practice Pearls.” These will be short presentations, 5-6 minutes, from audience members, specifically designed to help us manage our technology more efficiently. For example, Dr. **Will Engleman** will demonstrate how Voice Over IP phones have saved him a lot of money while providing better flexibility and features. I’ll be introducing inexpensive data backup software that is fast, secure and most important, reliable. If you have a “pearl” that you would like to share, please contact me.

See you in Las Vegas!

Ronald S. Jacobson
drronj@jacobsonortho.com

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Council on Membership, Ethics and Judicial Concerns

Since the last report, the Council has met twice by conference call on September 25 and December 11.

We finally approved a Council Policy Manual to help clarify what we do and how we accomplish our mandate from the *AAO Bylaws*. It also will be of help to new individuals who join the Council as well as helping BOT Liaisons get up to speed.

Jim Bowlin, AAO legal counsel, is writing an article for the *Bulletin* about board certification and avoiding advertising statements that suggest superiority. These are two issues on which the Council has spent significant time in ethical hearings. It is the thought of the Council that if the membership becomes aware of and educated on these issues, hopefully the number of ethical cases will decline.

Council members expressed a preference toward promoting membership and annual session benefits re-

quested by international members, especially those featured in the business plans for International Member Retention and Recruitment, as opposed to offering special discounts, which has a financial impact.

New residents receive regular e-mail blasts. The ‘welcome’ edition, which included a listing of all incoming residents, as suggested by Dr. **Elizabeth Spannhake**, was very well received and generated additional names and programs for inclusion in the database. Staff indicated that this process will be continued in future years.

The Council is discussing the whole membership renewal process and a three-year membership option for international members because of benefits to members such as locking in the dues rates, the opportunity for payment installments, a favorable exchange for some due to the weak dollar, etc. AAO additionally would benefit by processing renewals less often. Another issue which we will be discussing at our meeting in January will be the dues/assessments waiver process.

If there are other issues or concerns you have about membership, please contact me.

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Council on New and Younger Members

Since the last newsletter, our Council had a conference call in early December. Two new resident members joined the Council – Drs. **Rick Albrecht**, Temple University, and **Brian Nakfoor**, University of Michigan. Plans are underway for the 2008 New Orthodontist and Resident Conference. Committee Chair Dr. **Kim Batterson** reported that Mr. **Larry Mathias**, a financial advisor, will be the featured speaker. One free signed book on financial planning for the dental profession will be given away. The speaker also will be featured in the December issue of *NYMO*. Following the presentation, there will be a Q & A and cocktail reception. Other issues regarding the 2008 Annual Session include the childcare program and its safety and security issues. The AAO still is seeking a corporate sponsor.

Please check online for future *NYMO* articles planned for December and March. Any ideas or suggestions for the newsletter would be welcomed.

Our next face-to-face meeting is planned for February 2008 just before the technology conference, where we will finalize the Annual Session details and further

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update additional committee work including sending a representative to the ADA 2008 New Dentist Conference and the 2008 GORP meeting.

We encourage any feedback or comments so please feel free to contact me with any questions, ideas or concerns you may have.

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Council on Orthodontic Education

Topics currently being considered by COE include distance learning, the American Board of Orthodontics Phase 2 exam and early certification, the fellowship program for craniofacial anomalies and special care orthodontics, AAO initiatives in support of orthodontic education, the Match and PASS programs, developing an educators' blog on the AAO Web site and AAO white papers with educational themes.

Some COE members also are participating in the activities of the AAO Task Force on Recruitment and Retention. That group has been working on an academic careers presentation, a mentoring guide, faculty entrance and exit surveys, grant and resource listings, alumni development, faculty practice models and a clearinghouse of faculty openings.

A number of COE projects were addressed at the November meeting of the AAO Board of Trustees. Two surveys were approved; first, an electronic survey quantifying the hours and curriculum in predoctoral orthodontics in the U.S. and Canada, and second, a survey of graduate program directors/chairs about faculty supply and distance learning. Also approved were educator and student sections on the AAO member Web site.

COE prepared comments related to the proposed revisions to the advanced specialty education standards for orthodontics and dentofacial orthopedics (http://www.ada.org/prof/ed/accred/commission/news/proposed_ortho.pdf). Individuals also may submit suggestions directly to the Commission on Dental Accreditation.

Orthodontic educators are invited to the Education Leadership Conference honoring Dr. **T. M. Graber** on Friday, May 16, 2008, just prior to the AAO meeting in Denver. The theme of the meeting is "mentoring" in view of the impact that Dr. Graber had on so many orthodontic careers. In 2009 the meeting will honor Dr. **Robert Isaacson**.

Educators should consult the AAO Web site for information about AAO funding of programs for faculty leadership training and development. Each orthodontic program may submit nominations for the Academy of Academic Leadership Sponsorship Program fellowships. Now both AAO and AAOF have programs for faculty development.

COE will meet next on March 30 at the ADEA meeting in Dallas. Again, COE and the AAO will host a luncheon for dental school deans.

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Council on Orthodontic Health Care

Three AAO representatives attended the Subcommittee on Code Revision (CRC) meeting hosted by the ADA in Chicago on August 9-12, 2007. Attending the meeting were Drs. **John Buzzatto**, **John Harrison** and **Steve Robirds**. The AAO's proposal to include revised codes for fixed and removable appliance therapy in CDT-2009 was declined.

The Dental Benefits Member Advisory Hotline continues to be sponsored by COHC. Hotline callers are assisted with third-party reimbursement issues, practice management issues and CDT coding questions. The Council has identified that the majority of Hotline calls relate to coding issues. Consequently, a business plan to disseminate coding educational opportunities is being developed. The Council is working in conjunction with COOP to provide a code-related "Webinar" to AAO members and their staffs. If approved by the BOT, the Webinar is scheduled to take place in March 2008.

To address issues with third-party payers that cannot be easily resolved, the Council has implemented an AAO complaint form that will be used jointly with the ADA form for submission to the ADA Council on Dental Benefit Programs (CDBP). The CDBP logs all the complaints and holds periodic discussions with payers to try to bring about resolution.

If you or your staff have questions or difficulties with third-party issues, please make use of the AAO Dental Benefits Hotline at 314/993-1700.

The AAO's endorsement of the *Virginia Brown Community Orthodontic Partnership*, now known as the *Smiles Change Lives (SCL)* program, continues. SCL has

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American Board of Orthodontics

requested additional financial support from the AAO. COHC has requested comprehensive financial statements and will review them to make suggestions regarding changes in their business practices that address the sustainability of SCL's expansion programs. Dr. **Robert MacLean** continues to represent the AAO on the SCL National Advisory Board.

The Council is developing an access-to-care guide which outlines a number of program opportunities for AAO members' participation. Program opportunities are grouped regionally and include such selections as volunteerism in dental school clinics, *Donated Dental Services*, *Give Kids a Smile*, *Advantage Smiles for Kids*, Children's Dental Health Center of San Diego and various Mobile Dental Clinics.

COHC has submitted a request to the AAO Foundation's Planning and Awards Review Committee (PARC) to issue a "call for proposal" with regard to its Biomedical Research Award topic addressing the area of Access to Care.

COHC will be contacting the American Cleft Palate Association and the National Institutes of Health for NIM surveys to obtain statistically valid information detailing the amount and type of treatment provided for cleft palate and craniofacial anomalies nationwide to identify areas of need as opportunities for AAO members to provide medically needed care.

COHC is working to identify ways to better measure and quantify current pro bono work being done by AAO members. The Council expects to bring a proposed AAO-sanctioned definition of "pro bono care" to the Board for their approval in 2008. COHC believes that much pro bono care is going unreported and an association-sponsored definition will help provide statistically valid results that may be reported to the government and to the media.

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Council on Orthodontic Practice

Our Council is co-hosting with COIT the 2008 AAO Technology Conference at the JW Marriott in Las Vegas, Nevada, on February 8-10, 2008. It should be a great conference to help enhance the technological viability of your practice. Check out the AAO Web site for more details.

In addition, we are working on a number of brochures to help improve your practice.

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Special recognition is due Drs. **David Dykhouse**, Blue Springs, Missouri; **David Gehring**, Cedar Rapids, Iowa; and **Paula Harre**, Lincoln, Nebraska, for displaying their ABO certification cases at the MSO Annual Session in San Antonio. A special effort was made to bring the cases and place them for the membership to view the quality of treatment being done by our younger members.

It was a busy summer and fall for the ABO. We started with a three-day written exam committee meeting in June at the ABO office in St. Louis. One day was spent benchmarking the questions that will be used on the 2008 exam to test the knowledge required of an orthodontist. The remaining time was spent writing new questions and entering new cases for future use.

In July six of the ABO Directors traveled to California to attend the College of Diplomates of the American Board of Orthodontists' meeting in Half Moon Bay. An excellent meeting was planned by the committees and presided over by Dr. **Richard Ridgley**. In early September the Board held the annual fall retreat in Nashville, Tennessee, with a full agenda. Much of the time was spent on coordinating the electronic grading process for future clinical exams. We also reviewed the new ABO director selection process, which has worked well for the MSO in the past. The Board identified eight recertified orthodontists, one from each constituency, to come to Dallas, Texas, in February to train to become future examiners in the clinical examination. All eight were very gracious in accepting the position and will be excellent examiners. Dr. **Frederick Regennitter**, Chair of the Mayo Clinic orthodontic program, was the MSO Diplomate invited to participate.

The final total number of gateway orthodontists is 2,998. The percent of AAO membership, 46 years or younger that are Board certified is 74%. The youngest members to accept the gateway offer are four individuals at 27 years of age and the oldest are two orthodontists at 77 years of age. The range is wide but the majority are young which speaks well for the profession. The next clinical examination is scheduled for February 24-29, 2008. I would encourage all gateway Diplomates from the MSO to take the clinical examination next year to make sure there is time for you to complete the examination.

If I can help you in any way or answer any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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American Association of Orthodontists Political Action Committee

The AAO Political Action Committee (AAOPAC) is preparing for a key election year by increasing efforts to build resources to contribute to candidates friendly to the AAO cause.

The presidential and congressional elections largely will determine what type of healthcare policy our nation will have for decades.

The AAOPAC supports candidates who:

- Oppose broad expansion of government-run healthcare
- Oppose unnecessary regulations from OSHA, HIPAA or any other governmental agency
- Support Association Health Plans which could significantly lower your healthcare costs
- Support increases in student loan deductions, so that dental and orthodontic education is affordable

This year AAOPAC will invest a record amount of dollars in candidates who support views favorable to orthodontists. AAOPAC is now planning its budget for what promises to be a demanding election cycle.

For the first time in decades, both parties will be heading into a presidential election in which no heir apparent is in place. This will be the first election in over a half-century in which a sitting president or vice president is not seeking re-election. And, for the first time since James Madison and James Monroe held office two centuries ago, whomever is elected will follow two presidents who served two full terms in succession.

It is not too late to have your contribution count. Please join the AAOPAC today.

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College of Diplomates of the American Board of Orthodontics

2006-2007 president Dr. **Richard Ridgley**, hosted the 29th annual meeting of The College July 15-19 in Half Moon Bay, California. The Ritz Carlton Hotel atop the

Ocean Colony Bluffs overlooking the Pacific Coast was a magnificent setting. The theme of the scientific program, "Mixed Dentition Treatment," offered a wealth of information on early treatment.

The 2007-2008 Council members are: President Dr. **Thomas Skafidas**, SAO; President-elect Dr. **Tucker Haltom**, SWSO; Secretary Dr. **Philip Markin**, MASO; Treasurer Dr. **Dorothy Whalen**, NESO. Councilors include Drs. **Jim Morrow**, SWSO; **Rodney Hyduk**, GLAO; **Steven Marshall**, MSO; **Michael Guess**, PCSO; and **Robert Moss**, SAO.

Ad hoc committees have been formed to:

- Evaluate putting the Annual Session lectures on the Web site as a source for CE credits.
- Propose a five-year prep course plan due to the new certification process and recertification requirements.
- Reformat the newsletter to an electronic form.
- Evaluate the College of Diplomates Survey and then make necessary changes to the College.
- Revise the "Step Beyond" brochure.
- Market the College of Diplomates to residents to assist them in their pursuit of board certification.
- Assist the ABO in clinical grading. Many current and former councilors have been asked to act as guest examiners at the 2008 examination in Dallas.

Other projects include:

- A joint Board meeting with the American Board of Orthodontics' directors will be held at the Annual Summer Meetings.
- A Winter Meeting has been approved for as early as 2010. A regional rotation for future annual meeting sites also has been adopted.
- Prep Courses Update: In Seattle this past May during the AAO Annual Session, one-on-one classes were offered for the first time. A BCOE course is being developed and plans are to have it available during the AAO Annual Session in Denver next year as a pilot along with the written and clinical exam courses.

Thank you to those who responded to the recent survey. The College Council is analyzing the data and your comments and will post the results on their Web site in the near future.

The 30th Annual Meeting of the College of Diplomates will be held July 13-17, 2008, at the Big Sky Resort in Big Sky, Montana. The program theme is "The Sky is the Limit." Dr. **Steve Marshall**, MSO, is the Scientific Program Chair and has put together an outstanding program featuring Drs. **Birte Melsen**, **Bill Harrell**, **Emil Rossouw** and **Don Ferguson** and case presentations from Drs. **Steve Roehm** and **Dave Harnick**.

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The College of Diplomates Web site, www.cdabo.org, features general information for the public and specific information on future events including course registration and registration for the College's luncheon at the AAO Annual Session in Denver.

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American Association of Orthodontists Foundation

This year as AAOF President, I was honored to be invited to speak to the approximately 300 orthodontic residents gathered at the Graduate Orthodontic Residency Program (GORP) meeting in St. Louis in August. One of the reasons that Dr. **Rolf "Buzz" Behrents**, SLU Department Chair, gave for inviting me is that I am a GORP alumnus, having attended as a resident in 1994 and 1995.

At each of the GORP meetings I attended, I distinctly remember Dr. **Jim McNamara** (on the faculty at the University of Michigan, where GORP originated) commenting to the entire group of residents that one of us at that meeting would someday be president of the AAO, president of the AAOF, or hold some other significant role in our profession. I am very proud to say that I am the first GORP attendee to be the president of an AAO-related entity.

There is no group like residents who understand the sacrifices that orthodontic educators make to pass on their knowledge and to develop new information that benefits all of us. At this year's GORP meeting 79 residents made a pledge to the Foundation and became Vanguard Society members. Because of the support of AAO members and friends of the specialty, the Foundation has been able to award \$6.6 million in support of orthodontic education and research. There are currently 15 department chairs and/or program directors who have benefited from AAOF support early in their careers. Our orthodontic educators are the ones who have given all of us the wonderful opportunities that we have had. They not only deserve our appreciation but also our financial support.

The AAOF made its first awards in 1994. At that time and still today, the focus has been the development of junior faculty members. In this year's funding round, the Foundation Board has budgeted \$585,000 to be given in awards. Of this total amount, \$465,000 will be awarded to support junior faculty development. This amount also includes a restricted gift from the AAO of \$180,000.

The AAO Foundation recently established three new initiatives.

Preserving Orthodontic Collections: In various locations in the U.S. and Canada there are certain orthodontic records that should be preserved for orthodontic educational purposes as well as controls for research and growth studies. These materials include legacy materials which are untreated longitudinal records stored in various locations that are deteriorating with time and, because of their nature, may never be collected again. Preserving at least a representative sample of these orthodontic records is a Foundation funding priority second only to the support of junior faculty. The members of the Foundation's Planning and Awards Review Committee (PARC), chaired by Dr. **Stephanos Kyrkanides** (NESO/NY), will play a key role in helping the Foundation make its determinations in this regard.

Research & Marketing Plan: Early this calendar year, a group of AAOF directors and an equal number of non-directors met for the purposes of revising the fundraising portion of the Foundation's Strategic Long Range Plan (SLRP). One of the outcomes of this process was a call for the creation of a new Research and Marketing Plan that would ultimately lead to re-focusing/re-branding the current campaign, called **A CASE FOR THE FUTURE**. Dr. **Fred Garrett** (SWSO/TX), National Endowment Campaign Chair, and the rest of us look forward to the results of this effort.

Donor Advised Fund: The Board has taken steps to create a donor advised fund to benefit primarily the specialty of orthodontics and the profession of dentistry, similar in design and function to a community foundation, i.e., this planned-giving vehicle allows a donor to take an immediate charitable deduction for the amount of the funds provided for the establishment of such a fund and yet over time has some considerable say regarding which direction the actual distributions are made. Dr. **Jim Gjerset** (MSO), National Planned Giving Chair, and his committee have made arrangements for a program on this new offering at the AAO Annual Session in Denver.

We look forward to keeping you posted on these new initiatives and others of the Foundation into 2008 and beyond.

There is no indication that the mission of the AAOF is any less relevant today than it was 14 years ago. In fact, the AAO has the development of junior faculty as one of its six critical issues. We must continue to support the educators in our profession. Your contributions are working to support these people in establishing their research and in making up the disparity in income between full-time

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academics and private practice. I ask you to consider making a pledge if you have not already done so. For those of you who have, I want to thank you for your support and ask you to continue to support the Foundation with an upgrade of your pledge or by becoming a member of the Keystone Society and including the Foundation in your estate plans.

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American Association of Orthodontists Services, Inc.

American Association of Orthodontists Services, Inc. (AAOSI) is a wholly-owned, for-profit subsidiary of the AAO which was formed in 1995. The AAO, like many non-profit organizations, formed subsidiaries such as AAOSI to reduce tax liabilities from income derived from endorsed programs. The AAO can endorse a product, such as the policies of AAO insurance programs, in exchange for a royalty. However, legally, the AAO is prohibited from anything actionable – for example, marketing its insurance program, as the royalties derived would become immediately taxable to the AAO. Therefore, the AAOSI markets the products and services of AAO member benefit programs, and the AAO receives the royalty tax-free. From inception to date, the AAOSI has allowed the AAO to produce millions of dollars of royalty income for the AAO. In other operations, AAOSI, while a for-profit entity, provides services to many AAO programs that reduce costs to AAO members.

The AAO Insurance Company (AAOIC) also was formed in 1995. AAOSI was contracted to provide insurance management services and employed specialists to handle these duties. AAOSI continues to perform these functions and has recently expanded its scope of service to the AAOIC in these vital areas and has a contract with AAOIC through December 2009. AAOSI holds a letter of credit for the AAOIC required by the State of Vermont

where the AAOIC is domiciled. While it holds this letter of credit, AAOSI retains the ability to appoint two directors to the AAOIC Board of Directors.

In May 2007, AAOSI was approached to provide association management services for the Pacific Coast Society of Orthodontists (PCSO), the California Association of Orthodontists (CAO) and the Northeastern Society of Orthodontists (NESO). A business plan was developed using a shared services team approach, designed to be efficient and resourceful to our prospective clients, which included funding should additional staff be required. It was presented to the AAO Board of Trustees since the AAO BOT constitutes the corpus of shareholders of AAOSI. After participating in an extensive and comprehensive selection process in which AAOSI competed with other association management firms, AAOSI was awarded multi-year association management service contracts by PCSO, CAO and NESO. The service contract will reduce management costs for NESO, PCSO and CAO.

AAOSI monitors member benefit programs approved by the AAO including: TeamFirst Health Services, the approved credit card processing program available to AAO members; Bank of America affinity credit card program; MedJet Assistance program; Oakstone publishing programs; the Capital Healthcare Finance program for patient financing; the staff training program of the Academy of Orthodontic Assisting; and all AAO insurance programs. These programs are sources of royalty income for the AAO.

Noteworthy among these programs supported by AAOSI is the AAO-endorsed staff training program offered by the Academy of Orthodontic Assisting. Over 400 staff members have graduated from this program since its endorsement by AAO. Enrollment in the Academy of Orthodontic Assisting program continues to expand as this online learning program gains popularity nationally and internationally. AAOSI is seeking to enhance the current program with an advanced staff training curriculum.

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Be sure to see the front page of the December 2007 issue of the AAO *Bulletin* for an article about Dr. **Paula Harre**'s office which was selected as Dental Speciality Office of the Year in the 8th Annual Matsco Dental Office Design Competition. Her office will be featured in the April 2008 issue of *Dental Economics*. Congratulations, Paula.

Component Reports

Illinois

Cecile Yoon-Tarlie, President
Jerome A. Jarosz, President-Elect
D. Spencer Pope, Vice President
Ronald S. Jacobson, Secretary/Treasurer

The ISO got off to a great start this year with an excellent presentation from Dr. **Richard McLaughlin**. Many thanks to 3M Unitek for underwriting this program and to Dr. **Rudolfo Valente** for serving as the moderator. At our business lunch meeting Dr. **Mike Durbin** updated the members on the latest developments on the legislative front and reminded everyone to be involved by contributing to DENT-IL PAC and signing up for alerts from Capwiz.

The ISO's Public Awareness campaign, *More Than a Smile*, will begin to hit the media in the spring of 2008, so watch for the announcements. ISO planned for the campaign to dovetail with the AAO's national media campaign, which started last year and has already generated promising results. Also, the ISO's Web page is now online at www.isortho.org. Be sure to check the Web page often for information and updates.

Dr. **Ron Jacobson** and the rest of the Bylaws and Policy Manual Committee have been busy updating and reconciling the ISO's bylaws so they coordinate with the MSO and AAO bylaws. Thanks to all involved for finishing a tough and monotonous project. Hardcopies will be available at ISO meetings and soon will be available for download on the ISO's Web page. The Communications and Public Relations Committee also sent a copy of the AAO brochure, "Careers in Orthodontics," to every high school in Illinois. Many schools have since requested an orthodontist to speak at career day events, so if you are interested in participating, contact Dr. **Spencer Pope**.

At our December 10, 2007, meeting, the always-great Dr. **David Sarver** spoke on orthodontics and esthetics. The ISO would like to thank Ormco and Oral-B/Crest for underwriting this presentation and Dr. **Katie Graber** for moderating.

Sincere congratulations to Drs. **Zuhair Bakhsh**, **Mark Huls** and **Raymond Tsou**, who became Diplomates of the American Board of Orthodontics. My apologies for omitting their names in the last newsletter. Please talk to Dr. **Steve Marshall**, the MSO Council Representative for the College, or Dr. **Paul Castelein**, the MSO director to the ABO, if you have questions about becoming ABO certified.

The remaining programs for 2007-08 are:
February 22, 2008 – Dr. **Jason Cope** at the Chicago Dental Society Meeting (moderated by Dr. **Steve Marshall**)

April 7, 2008 – Dr. **Vince Kokich, Sr.**, underwritten by Dentsply GAC and Hu-Friedy (moderated by Dr. **Isaac Yue**)

I wish you all a safe and happy New Year.

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Iowa

O. Lee Wilham, President
Michael A. Callan, President-Elect
John P. Hermanson, Vice President
David C. Gehring, Secretary/Treasurer

The annual October meeting of the ISO was held at the Sheraton Hotel in Iowa City. We all enjoyed the entertaining style of Dr. **Gerald Samson's** presentation which included infusions of Rock and Roll hits from the 60s and 70s as well as scripted audience responses to keep us all awake! During our Monday morning meeting, over 200 orthodontic assistants received continuing education statewide via the Iowa Communications Network (ICN). Thank you to Dr. **Jim Hugg** who conceived of the idea and organized the event with the help of Ms. **Penny Ryan** of the University of Iowa. Penny has consented to organize similar ICN programs for our orthodontic assistants every other year in conjunction with our annual meeting of the ISO. I recommend we make this an all-day event offering 8.0 hours of CEU at a time.

Congratulations to Dr. **Mike Rovener** on his appointment to the Iowa Board of Dental Examiners. Mike advised each of us to have our clinical assistants begin the certification process to become "expanded function" assistants. He gave us an overview of how to proceed with the process and where to find information on the Iowa Board's Web site. Dr. **Ken Messer** and I already have combined efforts and had our staffs complete the first step.

The joint meeting of the Iowa Society of Orthodontists and MSO will be held in Iowa City October 24-25, 2008. MSO Director Dr. **Paul Hermanson** stated that the meeting is still in need of sponsors and asked us to talk to our orthodontic supply reps for any help they can provide.

It was voted to waive the yearly dues of the orthodontic faculty at the University of Iowa in appreciation for all they do to help the ISO.

Please send me your news and announcements for the next issue of the *MSO Newsletter*. It is a good way to stay connected. Please note my new e-mail address below. May you all have a happy and prosperous 2008.

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Manitoba

Constantine Athanasopoulos, President
Roger W. Moir, Secretary/Treasurer

Planning for the Canadian Association of Orthodontists' meeting in September 2008 is well underway with final arrangements being made. The scientific portion of the meeting will feature Drs. **Ron Redmond**, **James Mah**, **Sean Carlson** and **Angus Trumble**. There also is an excellent staff program in place. The social program will be held at the prestigious Glendale Golf and Country Club and there will be a non-golf program as well. Dr. **Tim Dumore** is the chairperson for the meeting and has put much time and effort into ensuring a successful event.

The Dental Regulatory Authorities, which are provincially based, have entered into an agreement to recognize foreign-trained dental specialists after they complete a qualifying training period and pass a specialist-based examination. Previously they were required to satisfy general dental criteria that will no longer be required.

The MOS will be adapting the AAO's advertising campaign for a local campaign, hopefully to start in the spring or fall of 2008. We have agreed to request a proposal from the Schupp Company to see what we can do that will be effective on a limited budget.

The MOS had the opportunity to attend two lectures that were brought to the Graduate Orthodontic Program. Dr. **Jose Dahan**, presented a lecture on combined fixed-functional orthodontics, and Dr. **Joe Caruso** presented a full-day hands-on course on TADs.

It is with great pleasure that I announce that Dr. **Tim Dumore** will be the new director to the MSO starting in the fall of 2008. Dr. Dumore has been actively involved as the Manitoba representative to the Canadian Association of Orthodontists for the past several years and brings that experience to our Board.

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Minnesota

Carlin L. Wiemers, President
Donna J. Stenberg, President-Elect
Steven J. Henseler, Vice President
John C. Aamodt, Secretary/Treasurer

The MAO Fall Meeting was another successful event. We had two faculty from the University of Minnesota who discussed current topics of interest. Dr. **Raj**

Gopalakrishnan spoke on orthodontic implications of bisphosphonates, and Dr. **Mansur Ahmad** discussed Cone Beam CT imaging. Their presentations helped bring everyone up-to-date in these two interesting areas.

Program Chair Dr. **Suzan Ekim** has organized the MAO Winter Meeting, which will be held at the Minneapolis Marriott City Center Hotel on Friday, January 11, 2008. Dr. **Tom Southard** will present a program entitled, "Evidence-Based Orthodontics – Just the Facts" to the doctors, and Ms. **Rita Bauer** will discuss practical tips on using digital photography in orthodontics for the staff.

The MAO Regulatory and Governmental Affairs Committee is once again active. They will be pursuing a change in the supervision level for elastic separator placement. The goal is to change the level of supervision for Registered Dental Assistants to place and remove elastic separators from indirect to general supervision. This would allow this expanded function to be performed without the orthodontist in the office. The committee's past experience should help streamline this involved process.

The MAO made a significant contribution to the *Smiles Change Lives* program last January to help the program get started in Minnesota. In addition, several individuals as well as the Minnesota Dental Foundation have contributed. *Smiles Change Lives* is the only national program of its kind providing access to care for low-income families whose children desperately need braces. The Orthodontic Department at the University of Minnesota has started the process of screening patients to be treated through this program with the hope of having the first kids in braces in early 2008. If you are interested in participating or know of a patient who may qualify for this program, contact Dr. **Steve Litton** at sflitton@aol.com.

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Missouri

Steven P. Billings, President
Michael R. LaFerla, Vice President
Jeffrey T. Cavanaugh, Secretary/Treasurer

The Missouri Society met at the Annual Session in San Antonio in September. One of the highlights of the MSO meeting was honoring our own Dr. **Frank Miller** with the 2007 Earl E. Shepard Distinguished Service Award. The Missouri Society decided to have a continuing education seminar every other year in conjunction with Kansas, so the next CE meeting will be in 2009.

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As noted in the *MDA Focus*, there are changes in the Missouri Dental Board Rules concerning advertising, patient abandonment and notice of injury or death. Please consult the Missouri Dental Board Web site at pr.mo.gov/dental.asp for an online resource describing these changes. The Board is in the process of changing its rules to require all licensees to hold a current certification in basic life support or advanced cardiac life support, or certification equivalent to BLS or ACLS, as a requirement for license renewal. The rule is expected to become effective at the end of the year or in early 2008. The Board also will be considering changes to its rules on expanded functions of dental assistants. No changes have been made yet, so all orthodontists should make sure they have their staff members certified and have them take the expanded functions exam to comply with the current state laws for the duties they now perform.

The Missouri Dental Association has planned four Legislative Days in 2008. "You can't afford to be a silent partner in decisions that affect your business, your practice, your profession. Legislative proposals directly impact dentistry in Missouri, and we need to have meaningful input. Political involvement is just good business," as quoted from the Missouri Dental Political Action Committee. The following 2008 dates are for component assignments on the Legislative Days – March 11 (Southwest and Northeast Dental Societies), April 8 (Springfield and St. Louis Dental Societies), April 23 (Northwest and Central Dental Societies) and May 6 (Kansas City and Southeast Dental Societies).

We appreciate the AAO BOT looking into helpful ways to address the lack of insurance coverage for orthognathic and TMJ surgery in Missouri. We look forward to any legal and administrative resources, strategies or letters to approach the insurance companies and local law makers to address this issue in our state.

Our new director from Missouri is Dr. **Ginny Mennemeyer** from Troy. I am certain she will continue the great tradition of Missouri directors and we thank her for accepting this responsibility.

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Nebraska

Rebecca H. Hohl, President
Phillip A. Samuels, Vice President
Laura Rothe, Secretary/Treasurer

The 2008 meetings have been announced by the

Omaha Orthodontic Study Club and the Nebraska Society of Orthodontists.

The Omaha Orthodontic Study Club will meet on Friday, February 1, 2008, at Shadow Ridge Country Club in Omaha. We will have the opportunity to have Dr. **Thomas Pitts** lecture to us on "Capturing Orthodontics with Great Excellence." The meeting will start at 8:00am and if you have not registered and would like to attend, please contact Diane at the office of Dr. **Tom Weber** at 402/896-4500.

The Nebraska Society of Orthodontists Annual Meeting will be held Friday, March 21, 2008, in Lincoln at the College of Dentistry's Dixon Lecture Hall. The speakers for the day's discussion will be Drs. **Peter Spalding, John Brand** and **Clarke Jones**. Registration materials will be mailed in January or call Dr. **Phil Samuels** at 402/379-3379 for further information.

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North Dakota

John O. Nord, President
Gary Cornforth, Vice President
John Warford, Jr., Secretary/Treasurer

We are proud of our own Dr. **John Warford** who continues to be very active in Bismarck and is currently serving as its mayor.

Contact any of the officers for further information.
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South Dakota

John G. Kharouf, President
Ryan Van Laecken, Vice President
Ross L. Crist, Secretary/Treasurer

The next annual business meeting of the South Dakota Society of Orthodontists is tentatively planned to coincide with the AAO Annual Session in Denver, Colorado, May 16-20, 2008. Members who have news items, component questions or suggestions are encouraged to contact any of the SDSO officers.

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Wisconsin

Robert R. Youngquist, President
Jane A. Bentz, President-Elect
George B. Wedell, Vice President
Richard P. Fisher, Secretary/Treasurer

The 2007 WSO Fall Conference was held in September at the Stoney Creek Inn in Onalaska. Our special guest speaker was Dr. **Jason Cope**. He detailed the scientific basis for orthodontic temporary anchorage devices, including an analysis of the literature on related implant experiments and a variety of clinical components including diagnosis, treatment planning, surgical placement, biomechanical considerations and removal procedures.

The 2008 WSO Spring Conference will be held April 20-22, at the Kalahari Resort in Wisconsin Dells. Dr. **Thomas Pitts** of Pitts Orthodontics in Reno, Nevada, will be our featured speaker. Spring is a great time for a getaway and the WSO members and their families can enjoy all the superb amenities the Kalahari has to offer, especially their

fabulous indoor water park.

The 2008 WSO Fall Conference will be held October 5-7 at the Landmark Resort in Egg Harbor. Our speaker will be **Howard M. Rochestie**, JD, LLLM, co-owner and Board Chair of Mercer Advisors. Mr. Rochestie is a gifted speaker who has brought Mercer's message of peace of mind and economic freedom to healthcare professionals for years. This is a great time of the year to visit beautiful Door County and enjoy its color and natural beauty.

It was with sadness that our membership learned of the passing of three long-time members this year: Drs. **John V. Drake**, **H. Brown Otopalik** and **Robert Winders**. All three were past presidents of our society. Their leadership, expertise and knowledge will be greatly missed. Our membership would like to express our sympathies to their friends and families.

For more information, be sure to visit our Web site at www.wisconsinsocietyoforthodontists.com

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Mennemeyer elected new director from Missouri



Virginia A. Mennemeyer

The MSO Board is pleased to announce its newest Board member, Dr. **Virginia A. Mennemeyer** of Troy, Missouri. She was installed at the MSO meeting in San Antonio.

Ginny was born and raised in Troy and has practiced there since 1999. She went to dental school and completed her orthodontic training at the University of

Texas – Houston, then returned to Troy to practice. Besides her orthodontic practice, she keeps busy serving on the board of the Troy Rotary Club and as a member of the Troy Chamber of Commerce. She also volunteers at the Lincoln County Health Department and is helping with orthodontic care for approved patients.

Ginny is married to **Doyle Justus**, who teaches agriculture as well as serving as a FFA advisor at Troy Buchanan High School. They have two children, James, age 5, and Grace, age 3, who keep them very busy.

We look forward to having Ginny serve on the MSO Board, and we welcome her input as the voice for Missouri orthodontists.

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Finally, I would like to give special thanks to several individuals who have done an excellent job representing our society and assisting the Board – **Kristi Burmeister**, Executive Director, Dr. **Lee Graber**, Trustee and Dr. **Steve Litton**, *MSO Newsletter* Editor and MSO Immediate Past President.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me—I'm only a phone call or an e-mail away.

Have a very happy and healthy 2008!

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Graduate School Reports

Marquette University

The Orthodontic Department at Marquette had its accreditation site visit on October 31-November 1. The site visit was very successful and we believe that when the Commission meets in January, we will receive full accreditation for another seven years with no recommendations.

We are delighted to have recruited Dr. **Jose Bosio**, who will be joining our faculty in February. Dr. Bosio is a Board Diplomate who graduated from The Ohio State University in 1996. He has been in practice for several years and we are thrilled that he is joining us and will be a great addition. He brings with him enormous clinical experience and we look forward to his having a successful career as an educator.

We were all saddened this past September with the passing of Dr. **Robert V. Winders**. He was the founding director of the Graduate Orthodontic Program and was a devoted teacher, mentor and friend to all his students for nearly forty years. He graduated from Marquette Dental School in 1951 and did his orthodontic training at Northwestern University from 1954-1956. He maintained continuous teaching service at Marquette from 1956 to 1994 and was appointed a full professor in 1968. He served as president of numerous organizations in Wisconsin including the Wisconsin Society of Orthodontists, International Association of Dental Research, OKU, American College of Dentists and the American Society of Dentistry for Children. He also served as vice president of the Edward H. Angle Society (Midwest Component) and was the orthodontic editor of the *Wisconsin State Dental Journal*.

I first met Dr. Winders over ten years ago after he had retired from the program. I was struck by his decency, warmth and sincerity. He was very helpful to me and all of his colleagues as we embarked on our professional lives. He was devoted to the profession and gave of his time willingly to keep the high standards that he played a large part in setting. He was a giant of orthodontics in the state of Wisconsin and was known for it both nationally and internationally. Dr. Robert V. Winders, 1928-2007, is survived by his wife, Doris; one daughter, Paula; and two granddaughters, Brittany and Dana.

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Mayo Clinic

The Department of Dental Specialties has a new chair. After eight years, Dr. **Kevin Reid** has stepped down

and Dr. **Sree Koka** has assumed leadership responsibilities. Dr. Koka has been at the Mayo Clinic for four years after serving previously at the University of Nebraska. He holds a Ph.D. from the University of Michigan and is certified by the American Board of Prosthodontics. He brings both vision and depth to our Department.

Just in time for the New Year, the orthodontic program will move back into a newly renovated treatment



Fred Regennitter (l) and John Volz

area in December. This is almost the final phase of our protracted remodeling project. By the end of March 2008 we hope to have radiography suites, personal offices and the secretary areas complete. Upon completion, this area will facilitate the rapid technologic

and educational advances in the clinical practice of orthodontics. Our newest resident, Dr. **Ryan Schumacher**, began his training in July and has had a positive impact on the program. He is originally from Ohio where he was in private practice. He joins Dr. **Tim Scanlan** (SUNY Buffalo '02) and Dr. **Bryan Vibeto** (Minnesota '01). This fall has seen a large group of well-qualified applicants from a spectrum of dental schools. We are looking forward to the Match results.

Earlier this year our residents had the opportunity to attend a successful GORP meeting in St. Louis and the MSO Annual Session in San Antonio. We appreciate the AAO and MSO supporting these activities.

We look forward to seeing many of you at the MAO winter meeting on January 11, 2008, at the Minneapolis Marriott City Center Hotel.

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Saint Louis University

The Orthodontic Program of the Center for Advanced Dental Education hosted the annual meeting of GORP at the Busch Student Center August 3-5, 2007. The 400 residents in attendance listened to some outstanding

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lectures and they had an opportunity to interact with about 100 representatives from approximately 60 companies that provide services and manufacture and distribute orthodontic equipment and supplies. But, best of all, students from all over North America had a great opportunity to interact with each other...they met and socialized with their future colleagues in orthodontics.

Fourteen residents graduated in December of 2007. They have scattered across the U.S. and Canada and are expected to serve their patients and specialty admirably. They and their home dental school are Drs. **Jason Aleman** (Southern Illinois University), **Katherine Barnette** (Southern Illinois University), **Elizabeth Bauer** (Southern Illinois University), **Gregory Bell** (Ohio State University), **Brandy Burgess** (UCLA), **Jessica Falk** (Temple University), **James Fruge** (Louisiana State University), **Alfred Jackson** (University of North Carolina), **Jay Nagamatsu** (Tufts University), **Alan Petersen** (University of the Pacific), **Michael Ryckman** (University of Kentucky), **Trenton Thalman** (Indiana University), **James VandeBerg** (Baylor College of Dentistry) and **Christine Brinley** (Southern Illinois University).

The Orthodontic Education and Research Foundation will hold its next meeting in St. Louis March 6-9, 2008. This is a significant meeting as it marks the 50th Anniversary of the OERF. The President of the OERF this year is Dr. **Lysle Johnston** and he has crafted an exciting program. The title of the program is, "Newest Vistas in Orthodontics," and speakers include Drs. **Mark Hans**, **Jim Vaden**, **Sunil Kapila**, **Gerry Samson**, **Orhan Tuncay**, **Jay Bowman**, **Tony Gianelly**, **Bill Gaylord**, **Lysle Johnston** and **Rolf Behrents**. Dr. **Bill Gaylord**, president of the AAO and a SLU alumnus, will receive the OERF Merit Award. Contact moscalb@slu.edu for information on this very special OERF meeting.

In addition, the SLU orthodontic program has a number of guest speakers arranged for the spring of 2008. All MSO students are encouraged to look at the schedule on our Web site (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 Illinois – Chicago

Class of 1947 alumnus Dr. **Robert Litowitz** was honored on his recent birthday in Miami with the announcement that his son has established the Robert Litowitz Biennial Spring Lectureship Series. As stated on the certifi-

cate, "This biennial lecture will focus on pathbreaking research and patient care advances in the area of Craniofacial Genetics. The Robert Litowitz Lectureship Series has been established with the generous support of Dr. Arthur N. Litowitz, on behalf of Robert Litowitz's family and honors and celebrates Dr. Litowitz's 88th birthday. This generous gift links the historic legacy of the late Dr. **Allan G. Brodie** to one of his former students and greatest admirers, Dr. Robert Litowitz."

Faculty members Drs. **Gregory Jackson** and **Robyn Silberstein** were featured in a news segment on the ABC television affiliate in Chicago on December 6. They commented on the growing trend of teens to have cosmetic makeovers with veneers rather than choosing to have orthodontic treatment. Their participation was filmed at UIC.

The new alumni newsletter can be accessed on the department's Web site (<http://www.uic.edu/depts/dort/alumni.html>). The newsletter has photos from the graduation dinner and the Bernard J. Schneider Golf Invitational. These 2007 graduates were welcomed to the Illinois Orthodontic Alumni Association by President and Executive Director **Vincent Arpino**: Drs. **Osama Abualnaja**, **Rasha Al-Sanea**, **Derek Bock**, **Howard Choi**, **Clara Chow**, **Maria Therese Galang**, **Silvana Gonzalez Manzur**, **Carrie Hedin**, **Matthew Israel**, **Neal Kravitz** and **Ameerah Mansour**. Dr. Galang has stayed on as a full-time faculty member and director of predoctoral orthodontics. Dr. Mansour is completing her Ph.D. in Public Health.

The 2008 Illinois Orthodontic Alumni Association Quadrennial Meeting features Ms. **Char Eash** on September 5-6, 2008. The program is free for all dues-paying members.

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University of Iowa

We wish to welcome the members of our new first-year class, Drs. **Albert Eng** (Iowa '07); **Layne McCord** (Louisville '06); **Trent Nestman** (Iowa '07); **Suzanne Stock** (Iowa '07); and **Niles Woodall** (Alabama '04). Our second-year class consists of Drs. **Laura Low** (Creighton '06); **Kyle Mann** (Iowa '06); **Laura Milnor** (Iowa '06); **Lina Moreno** (Columbia '91); and **Todd Rasch** (Marquette '06). Our faculty is grateful to these young persons for coming to learn with us.

A special word of thanks to Drs. **Ron Hanneman**,

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Paul Hermanson, Clay Parks and Tom Stark. As our adjunct faculty, they regularly volunteer their time for the betterment of the orthodontic program and our residents' education. The department would have a very difficult time managing without their help.

I am delighted to announce that two of our faculty will receive highly coveted awards in 2008. Dr. **John Casko** will receive the Louise Ada Jarabak Memorial International Teachers and Research Award at the 2008 AAO Annual Session in Denver, and Dr. **Steve Marshall** will receive the Earl E. Shepard Distinguished Service Award at the 2008 MSO Annual Session in Iowa City.

Dr. Casko received his clinical training at Georgetown University and a Ph.D. from the University of Pittsburgh. He was director of orthodontic clinics at the University of North Carolina prior to his position as chairman of the Department of Orthodontics at the University of Iowa from 1976-2002. Over 130 orthodontists were trained and educated under John during his 26-year tenure as chairman. He also has contributed to the education of many orthodontists at numerous continuing education courses presented throughout his career.

John is a past-president of the American Board of Orthodontics, past president of the Midwest Component of the Edward Angle Society of Orthodontists, Editor-in-Chief of *Practical Reviews in Orthodontics*, a member of the ADA Council on Dental Accreditation, a member of the AAO Council on Education and a Commissioner on the ADA Commission on Dental Accreditation. The Jarabak Award, being the highest form of compliment paid to those whose careers have been devoted to teaching orthodontics, is certainly well-deserved by John.

Dr. Marshall is a Visiting Associate Professor in the department. He received an M.S. in Biochemistry from the University of Iowa and his dental and orthodontic education at Northwestern University. He was a faculty member in the Department of Orthodontics at Northwestern University for 13 years until the program closed in 2000. He has written numerous publications and has conducted seminal research in facial growth and development.

Steve currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Illinois Society of Orthodontists, the Midwestern Society of Orthodontists, the College of Diplomates of the American Board of Orthodontics and is a delegate to the AAO House of Delegates. He is an active member of the Edward. H. Angle Society of Orthodontists (Midwest Component).

I know that I speak for all of us in congratulating Steve and John on receiving these awards.

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University of Manitoba

Third-year residents Drs. **James Noble** and **Nick Karaiskos** and program director Dr. **Billy Wiltshire** presented research papers at the European Orthodontic Congress in Berlin in June. Drs. Noble and Karaiskos also earned first and second prizes amongst all residents competing in the Forestadent self-ligating challenge. Dr. Wiltshire attended a lunch meeting in Berlin with several other members of the World Federation of Orthodontists educational taskforce, chaired by WFO president, Dr. **Thanos Athanasiou**.

Drs. Noble and Karaiskos also presented research papers at the Canadian Association of Orthodontists meeting in St. John's, Newfoundland, in September. The University of Manitoba also held a very successful alumni function at the CAO, which was attended and enjoyed by orthodontic alumni from across Canada.

Visitors to the program since June who have presented lectures have been Dr. **Joe Caruso** from Loma Linda University, who presented a one-day TAD course; Dr. **Steve Lindauer** from VCU who lectured on biomechanics; and Dr. **Bill Dissinger** (Oregon) who also presented a one-day Damon course.

Our third-year residents have been successful in their ABO and FRCDC Part 1 exams as well as the program's comprehensive internal exams which included an outside external examiner, Dr. **Steve Lindauer**.

Dr. **Milos Lekic** has been appointed Director of Orthodontic Outreach in the department and currently is managing the monthly trip and orthodontic services to Norway House First Nation. A second- or third-year resident also has the opportunity of providing the outreach services with Dr. Lekic. He also currently holds a half-time appointment in orthodontics.

Drs. Wiltshire and Noble recently traveled to Churchill in the near-Arctic to undertake free orthodontic screenings for the patients in that geographically-isolated community which has only rail, sea and air links with the outside world, making it both difficult and very expensive for the inhabitants to access orthodontic screening.

The program has two open academic positions and will be interviewing potential candidates during December and January. We also are very actively preparing for our accreditation site visit by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of Canada on February 4-5, 2008.

We bid farewell to Dr. **Susan Lukas** who will be leaving the program in December. We extend a hearty "friendly Manitoba" welcome to our new part-time ortho-

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dontists, Drs. **Milos Lekic, Gary Levine, Kris Row** and **Susan Tsang**, as well as returning orthodontist Dr. **Hermann Lee**. This also is an opportunity to thank all our other part-time orthodontists as well – Drs. **Jeff Bales, Tim Dumore, Frank Hechter** and **Gerry Solomon**. Part-timers are the life-blood of the program and continue to give unselfishly of their time and talent...THANK YOU!

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University of Minnesota

It is quite unusual for someone to be granted Professor Emeritus status by a university if that person did not retire from that institution. That is why it was so exciting that the University of Minnesota Board of Regents granted that status to Dr. **Bob Isaacson**, even though he left our institution in 1977. Bob's influence is still felt here on a daily basis as we work and practice in a clinic that he designed with a vision of the future. A great example of Bob's unique outlook is that, at a reception honoring his Emeritus status, he spent his time talking about the future, not reflecting on the past. Congratulations on this unique honor, Bob!



Bob Isaacson (l) and Brent Larson

We have some other positive changes to report as well. Dr. **Ben Pliska** has been hired as a full-time assistant professor in orthodontics and is working hard with Dr. **John Beyer** to make our pre-doctoral orthodontic courses even better. Ben is a native of Canada and completed his orthodontic residency here at Minnesota last summer. In the spirit of interdisciplinary care, Ben's wife, Roxanna, is currently in the prosthodontic program here at Minnesota. Ben has been a wonderful and enthusiastic addition to our faculty, and we are trying to provide an environment for him that will keep him here for many years.

Another exciting change is the appointment of Dr. **Suzan Ekim** as our Advanced Education Program Director. Suzan has been an organizer and leader in our residency program for several years, but now that she is ABO-certified, she can officially take the reins of our graduate program as program director. This does not signal any reduction in my time or commitment to the program but,

rather, gives Suzan recognition for the job she has done so well for a long time.

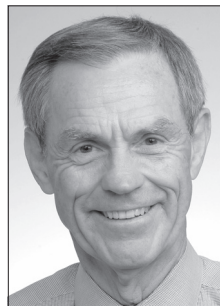
The part-time faculty continues to be faithful and valuable contributors to our training program. The retirements of Drs. **Mel Dale** and **Carl Casperson** left a void in our Friday staff, and this has been filled by the father-son team of Drs. **Wayne** and **Dan Sletten**. We thank Wayne and Dan for their willingness to contribute and look forward to their contributions.

Please make plans to join us for the Minnesota Alumni Reception if you are traveling to Denver for the AAO meeting in May. This annual gathering of alumni and friends has proven to be one of the most enjoyable times of the year as we all enjoy the opportunity to renew old friendships and create new ones.

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University of Missouri – Kansas City

We are delighted that Dr. **Don Thompson** ('61) will receive the Dale B. Wade Award of Excellence at the 2008 AAO Annual Session in Denver for his exceptional dedication to orthodontics through clinical excellence and devoted teaching in the image of Dr. Wade. Let's all plan to attend the CDABO luncheon in Denver and give a big UMKC cheer for Don. Also, please plan to attend the UMKC Alumni Reception at the 2008 AAO meeting to see Don, other alums, friends, current residents and faculty.



Donald Thompson

Dr. **Vance Dykhouse** ('70) is now officially the immediate past-president of the American Board of Orthodontics, having completed his work as president at the 2007 Annual Session of the AAO in Seattle. Thankfully, he continues to provide UMKC residents with his clinical wisdom during his bi-weekly seminars and clinical supervision. We at UMKC congratulate Vance for his superlative work for the Board and his ongoing support for the UMKC Orthodontic Program.



Vance Dykhouse

It was recently announced that Dr. **Laura R.**

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Iwasaki, Leo A. Rogers Endowed Chair in Orthodontics, will be the Chair of the Department of Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics. She replaces Dr. **Katherine Kula**, who is moving to Indiana University to the position of Chair of the Department of Orthodontics and Orofacial Genetics. At UMKC, Dr. **Don Thompson** remains as the Graduate Clinic Director and Dr. **Jeff Nickel** is the Graduate Program Director.

In addition to their teaching duties in the graduate program, Drs. Nickel and Iwasaki are engaged in funded research. Part of their work is sponsored by the National Institutes of Health and explores the inter-individual differences in jaw mechanics that may be relevant to the development of myofascial pain and degenerative joint disease of the TMJ. This research involves collaborators from the State University of New York at Buffalo School of Dental Medicine, the University of Nebraska and research teams in Zurich, Switzerland, and Osaka, Japan. Another part of their research is sponsored by an AAOF Center Award. This project is examining the factors related to the speed of tooth movement in humans, including magnitudes of stress, stage of development, cytokines secreted in gingival crevicular fluid and genetics.

In August 2007 we had our graduation celebration at the Indian Hills Country Club where happy family members, friends, faculty, staff and fellow residents gathered to pay tribute to the successes of Drs. **Erin Jamesen**, **Shellianna Kawamoto**, **Nellie Kim-Weroha** and **Adam Saylor**. Drs. Jamesen and Kawamoto have returned to their home states of Texas and Hawaii, respectively; Dr. Saylor has moved to Chicago and Dr. Kim-Weroha to Rochester, Minnesota. We are proud of the Class of 2007 and are looking forward to seeing them again soon.

As of July 1, 2007, four new orthodontic residents began the graduate orthodontic program. They are Drs. **Jason Burckhardt** (University of Minnesota), **Chuck Schumacher** (University of Southern Illinois), **Ian Ballou** (University of Missouri-Kansas City) and **Paul Anders** (University of Nebraska Medical Center). Our senior residents, Drs. **Mike Barlow**, **Patrick Briscoe**, **Tara Cash** and **Larissa Freytag**, are now deeply immersed in their final year of residency.

The faculty, staff and residents of the UMKC graduate orthodontic program extend heartfelt thanks to Dr. **Doug Thompson** for his time and dedication to orthodontic education. We wish him all the best as he embarks on relocating his practice and retires from his part-time teaching position. Thank you and good luck, Doug. Dr. **Jeff Thompson**, Doug's brother, will continue to teach in the graduate clinic as well as taking on new responsibilities this coming year as president-elect of SWSO. Thank you, Jeff,

for your continuing efforts in teaching and service to the profession.

We would like to remind everyone that the UMKC 2008 Midwestern Dental Conference and Orthodontic Meeting will take place on April 3-4, 2008. The topic for the meeting will be "3D Imaging for Orthodontists" and will be presented by Dr. **Chung How Kau**, our distinguished guest speaker. Dr. Kau is an Associate Professor of Orthodontics and Director of the 3D Facial Imaging Laboratory at the Dental Branch, University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston. Dr. Kau's two-day course will include an overview of imaging devices for the head and neck region and a hands-on session where participants will be able to manipulate computer images.

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University of Nebraska

New residents Drs. **Quinn Draper** (University of Nevada Las Vegas), **Paul McAllister** (Oregon Health and Science University) and **Casey Warren** (Baylor University) joined our program on July 1 and are doing well in their first year in the program. They each are currently managing treatment for approximately 35 new patients in the clinic, working hard in regard to the didactic portion of the program and beginning research with advisors for their Masters degrees.

Dr. **Marcos Lenza** joined the program in early August and currently is serving as Vice-Chair and Assistant Program Director until credentialing requirements for Nebraska are received. Dr. Lenza brings with him a wealth of over 20 years of teaching experience from the University of Goias School of Dentistry in Brazil, where he was Chair of the Department of Orthodontics and Graduate Program Director. With an M.S. in Pediatric Dentistry, Orthodontic Certificate and Ph.D. in Oral Biology – all earned at the University of Nebraska and a post-doctorate at the University of Aarhus in Denmark with Professor **Birte Melsen** – Dr. Lenza is well on his way to making significant improvements in a historically solid orthodontic program. His expertise and knowledge are bringing about procedural changes that will lead us well into the future.

In September 2007 guest speakers assistant professor **Paolo Cattaneo**, Ph.D., and associate professor **Michel Dalstra**, Ph.D., at the Department of Orthodontics, School of Dentistry, Aarhus University, Denmark, provided a six-

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hour continuing education event for our residents, faculty, program alumni and Nebraska orthodontists. Their lecture series, entitled, "New Trends in Orthodontics – on the Road Toward Virtual Treatment," was well attended. They presented some of the technological aspects that would lead to the "virtual patient" and covered the basic concepts of new digital diagnostic tools – i.e. digital casts and CBCT scanners – that are making headway into imaging in orthodontics. Basic research that involves new materials, such as brackets, mini-screws, wires and computer simulation of load transfer during orthodontic force application, was also presented.

Chairside computers have been in our clinic for over a year, and this fall, chairside patient data entry became part of our clinic procedures. In addition, more students are now able to use Dolphin imaging and ICAT images to enhance treatment planning.

The interview process for 2008 program candidates was completed in November and, through the Match Program, three new residents were chosen to begin the program on July 1, 2008. They are Drs. **Ann Granicz** (University of Connecticut), **Shawn Powell** (University of Nebraska Medical Center and a certificate in Pediatric

Dentistry) and **Thyagasselly (Sheela) Premaraj** (University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka, and Ph.D. from Gifu University School of Medicine, Japan).

Our December 2007 graduates were Drs. **Michael J. Crosby**, **Paul Robinson** and **Loren Short**. Dr. Crosby successfully defended his Masters thesis, *Cranio-mandibular mechanics of subjects with and without temporomandibular disorders*, prior to graduation. All three graduates plan careers in private practice: Dr. Crosby in Atlanta, Georgia; Dr. Robinson in Grapevine, Texas; and Dr. Short in Caldwell, Idaho.

Faculty member Dr. **Sundaralingam Premaraj** was just chosen as a recipient of the D. H. Reinhardt Scholar Award. He will use this award to further his research on the molecular biology of tooth movement at the Royal Veterinary College – University of London in June 2008.

Dr. **Peter Spalding** is completing his year as president of the American Cleft Palate-Craniofacial Association. He will serve as one of the MSO representatives to the AAO Governmental Affairs Conference in January.

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Graber – continued from page 6

with craniofacial anomalies. This legislation also has been lobbied by the ADA with some variance in the positioning from the AAO. I would encourage you to keep on top of this issue—and remember that you can easily write your representatives in Congress through use of our AAO Legislative Action Site. Simply go to the AAO home page, click on the "Legal & Advocacy" link, and then click on the "Legislative Action Center" link. I encourage you to be active in this political year. Be seen by the candidates you support and let them know you are an orthodontist so that if dental health care issues do arise, your expertise will be recognized. Note that our MSO President **Mike Hipp** also heads the AAO PAC! Mike is another great MSO resource.

The association continues to look for ways in which volunteer leaders can participate but minimize the interruption to their practice and private lives. One area that seems to hold promise is video conferencing. The BOT passed a resolution to have our Council on Scientific Affairs meet entirely through video conferencing as a trial for other councils and committees. COIT continues to evaluate programs that allow technology to assist our leadership volunteers. At the same time, the AAO is working to upgrade the conference room facility in the AAO Central Office to allow better use of computer-based collaborative

instruments, like Microsoft SharePoint. Our goal is to enhance the options for councils and committees and make them more efficient and effective. Additionally, we look to use the technology to make better use of outside consultants whenever necessary.

The AAO will hold its 2008 Technology Conference in Las Vegas, February 8-10, at the JW Marriott Las Vegas Resort & Spa. Please see the COIT report on page 7 for more detailed information.

In this column I have summarized only a few of the many issues that the AAO Board of Trustees has discussed. The AAO *Bulletin* and Web sites have information that can be of further help to you and your practice. Please also review the AAO Council reports included in this *MSO Newsletter*. They are written by your fellow Midwestern Society members—our representatives to the AAO. If you have specific questions or suggestions, please contact your MSO council representatives with your input. Also, please feel free to contact me with suggestions, questions and/or concerns, so I may better represent you on the AAO Board of Trustees.

Have a healthy and happy new year!

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MIDWESTERN SOCIETY OF ORTHODONTISTS

Winning Solutions for Patient Success

**Midwestern Society of Orthodontists Annual Session
Sheraton Iowa City Hotel, Iowa City, Iowa
October 24–25, 2008**

**Practical Orthodontic Treatment and
Recent Research Findings**

University of Iowa Orthodontic Department Faculty

- **John Casko**
- **Kirk Fridrich**
- **Steve Marshall**
- **Karin Southard**
- **Tom Southard**

**Old Problems, New Solutions... a
Primer Focusing on New Tools in
Orthodontics**

- **James Hilgers**-sponsored by Ormco

**Advancing the Art and Science of
Orthodontic Anchorage**

- **Jack Fisher**-sponsored by Dentsply GAC

Registration materials for this doctors-only program will be mailed out in June or go to www.msortho.org.

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