The Orthodontics Department in Spring 2007 has renamed its top student awards in honor of a pair of fifty-year members of the faculty. The student research award, which this year went to Reid Wenger, D.D.S., M.S.D. ’92, ’07, has been renamed the B. Holly Broadbent Research Award. The clinical prize has been renamed the Sanford Neuger Award for Clinical Excellence.

It is fitting that the research award should bear the name of Dr. Broadbent, who directed the Bolton-Brush Growth Study Center at Case Western Reserve University’s School of Dental Medicine for more than two decades. Dr. Broadbent’s response to the honor was typically humble, pointing to the groundbreaking research of his father, who established the Bolton Growth Study Center and who developed the Bolton Standards of Dento-facial Growth, still used by clinicians today.

“B. Holly Broadbent, Sr., D.D.S. ’19, put Case Western Reserve University on the world stage when he invented the cephalometer in 1931,” said Dr. Mark Hans, Chair of Orthodontics, who has held the position since 1981. “It is fitting that the research award should bear the name of Dr. Broadbent, who directed the Bolton-Brush Growth Study Center and who developed the Bolton Standards of Dento-facial Growth, still used by clinicians today.”

Dr. Broadbent, who attended both undergraduate college and dental school at Western Reserve University after a stint as an army paratrooper, maintained a successful private practice from which he retired only last year.

Dr. Broadbent’s colleague for the past fifty years, Sanford Neuger, also attended dental school on the campus where he still enjoys working with residents. After completing a residency in orthodontics at Indiana University, Dr. Neuger returned to Cleveland, where he set up a successful private practice from which he retired six years ago.

When asked to reflect upon his greatest accomplishments, Dr. Neuger, who served in both World War II and Korea, will not mention that he invented Contemporary Edgewise mechanics, or pioneered the use of pretorqued arch wires in CWRU’s Orthodontic Department, or that he shouldered the majority of the clinical case load in the graduate clinic for more than forty years. “It’s all about the smile,” said Dr. Neuger, whose brand of sliding mechanics has influenced all the graduates of this program. “Helping so many patients smile and teaching so many young Orthodontists to do the same is itself a living legacy,” he said. “Having the Award for Clinical Excellence named after me is an honor beyond anything I would have ever imagined.”

“At a time when volunteerism is declining throughout America, I think it is fitting that we honor Sandy for 50 years of dedication to Case Western Reserve University and the department of Orthodontics,” Dr. Hans said. “We wouldn’t be where we are today without Sanford Neuger.”
When most people think "Dental Public Health" their mind doesn't automatically leap to "orthodontics." In fact, there is only one orthodontist in the United States who is also a Diplomat of the American Board of Dental Public Health: Associate Professor Monica Fisher.

"It is important to me to be able to bring an evidence-based practice approach and public health perspective to the specialty of orthodontics," said Dr. Fisher, who received her orthodontic training at the University of Connecticut, when Dr. Charles Burstone was department chair. Since coming here, she has provided a public health point of view to augment the orthodontic clinical program, by modifying the patient medical history form so that it now includes questions about tobacco use. Smoking is an important link between public health and orthodontics. "Smoking's impact on tooth movement—and therefore on treatment outcomes—is an area that should be investigated," says Dr. Fisher, who has a PhD in Epidemiologic Science from the University of Michigan.

The road to Public Health (she earned an MPH from the University of Michigan) was paved by early experiences as an orthodontist. Dr. Fisher joined the United States Air Force, after being an associate in private practice, because she could offer treatment based exclusively on need in the military. With approximately 40,000 active duty and dependents eligible for orthodontic care, she could offer treatment based on the needs of smoking in the currently debated question of whether or not periodontal disease causes heart disease or poor glycemic control in adults with diabetes. Dr. Fisher has developed two graduate courses for the orthodontic residents. The first course facilitates the development of a sound research question; the second course facilitates the development of the residents' formal written Master's Thesis Protocol and culminates in their Oral Protocol Defense. "I had great mentors at the University of Michigan and University of Connecticut," Dr. Fisher said. "I had excellent training, and I want to pass that along."

MEET THE INCOMING CLASS (cont.)

for international students in Orthodontics at NYU from 2005-2006. He practiced general dentistry in Greece for about 15 months. "I found it amazing that an orthodontist can guide the facial growth development of a child, thus improving a child's personality and psyche," says Dr. Evangelinakis. "I was impressed by the outstanding skills and great reputation that Greek orthodontists who have graduated from Case Western Reserve University have in my country."

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Monica Velez received her D.D.S. in 2005 from the University of Puerto Rico Medical Sciences Campus. She completed a General Practice Residency in Montefiore Medical Center in Bronx, NY, in June 2006. Since August 2006, she has practiced as a general dentist in New York City. She feels that becoming an orthodontist will give her the opportunity to combine function with esthetics.

David J. Sullivan graduated from Villanova University and from the University of Southern California Dental School. "I decided to become an orthodontist rather than a physician after I underwent orthodontic treatment myself during high school," says Dr. Sullivan. "I chose this program for orthodontics because it was highly recommended by Dr. Clay Damon '55." During Dr. Sullivan's college summers, he worked for Dr. Damon in Spokane, WA.

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Dr. Velez, who is very interested in research, worked part-time as a research fellow at NYU. E-MAIL: monica.fisher@case.edu

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Happy Birthday Joe!
Professor Joe Gould turned 100 years old on April 6. His family hosted a special party for Joe, who, after 50 years on the faculty of the department still serves part-time as a consultant.

Congratulations to Sharon Schmahl, M.S.D., Ph.D., the 2006 Phelps Award winner for Outstanding Clinical Faculty. Dr. Schmahl, who has a private practice with fellow faculty member Dennis Beson, D.D.S., M.S., M.S., 71, 73, in Chagrin Falls and Novelty, Ohio, works with residents in the Orthodontics Clinic every Wednesday morning.