

# Periodontics News 2017-2018



*Dr. T. Roma  
Jasinevicius, Interim  
Chair, Department of  
Periodontics, 2017*

## Interim Chairman

T. Roma Jasinevicius, better known as Dr. J, has been a faculty member of Case Western Reserve University School of Dental Medicine for over two decades. She received her DDS from CWRU in 1976

and her Master's in Education from Cleveland State University. Although her publications include studies using skulls from the Cleveland Museum of Natural History's The Hamann-Todd Human Osteological Collection, her research focus is educational methodology. Her *University Center for Innovation in Teaching and Education* (UCITE) Grant evaluating Virtual Reality resulted in an article that received Journal of Dental Education's Best Manuscript Award. She has served on the Editorial Review Board of Journal of Dental Education (JDE) and Quintessence International and continues to review for other journals. She is an active member of American Dental Education Association, and has served on committees for National Boards Part I and II.

Dr. J notes that it was an honor to be asked to serve as the interim chair of the Department of Periodontics and looks forward to working with the remarkable faculty. She mentioned she is excited to work with Dr. Bissada who was instrumental in her pursuit of a career in academia.

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## From the Dean Kenneth Chance, DDS '79

After more than four decades, Dr. Nabil Bissada has stepped down as Chair after leading the Department of Periodontics. He is stepping up to a new challenge as our school's inaugural Associate Dean for Global Relations. Bissada has been a major contributor to our school and played a pivotal role in catalyzing our new partnership with Future University in Cairo.

I am pleased to welcome Dr. Roma Jasinevicius as the appointed interim chair of the Department of Periodontics. "Dr. J" is an alumna and long-time faculty member. She is an accomplished researcher and teacher who has been dedicated to our students and school community. I am moved by Dr. J's willingness to take on this new challenge. Please join me in thanking her.

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# Faculty & Staff Highlights

**Leena Paloma, DDS, MSD, '00, '04**



Dr. Palomo (right) gave the Keynote Address at the Indiana University Periodontics Resident Graduation. At the American Academy of Periodontology Annual Session in San Diego, she gave two presentations, served as the Chair of the AAP Pre-Doctoral Program Directors Association and celebrated Lynsie Sprouse (DMD '18) winning the Patty & Paul Levi Award for her research project mentored by Dr Palomo. Dr. Palomo gave invited talks in Tokyo, Italy, Dubai, and Egypt. In the media, her professional opinions were featured in the *Plain Dealer*, *WEBMD*, *Dr Bicuspid*, and *The San Fernando Valley Business Journal*. Dr Palomo also published three articles and a book chapter and was a board examiner for the American Board of Periodontology.

**Andre Paes, DDS, MSc, PhD**



Dr. Andre Paes is currently undergoing a three-part certification training course to be an instructor in LANAP, an FDA approved laser surgery, to treat periodontal diseases. Together with Dr. Paul Ricchetti, they are implementing a course including didactic and training of this procedure for

our residents. Dr. Ricchetti and Dr. Paes will be conducting research projects evaluating the efficacy of this procedure in various levels of severity of periodontal diseases and conditions. Dr. Paes is currently conducting numerous research projects in collaboration with faculty in our school and overseas faculty (Turkey) including the following areas: microbiology of periodontal diseases and its association with systemic diseases and cancer; student interest in pursuing

advanced education in periodontology, and prevention of periodontal diseases. Dr. Paes is the recipient of two outstanding awards this year, both locally and nationally – The Nevin's Teaching and Clinical Research Fellowship Award and the 2017 Award for Outstanding Teaching and Mentoring in Periodontics.

**Paul Ricchetti, DDS, MScD**



After 38 years in full time private periodontal practice with a part time position in the Department of Periodontics, Dr. Ricchetti became full time in the department in 2016. In addition to his clinical responsibilities, supportive research duties, and part time practice, Dr. Ricchetti

directs several courses and seminars for the residents, and is a member of several thesis committees. He is currently pursuing a joint research project with the Department of Biology on bone induction utilizing mesenchymal stem cells.

**Angel Watson**



Angel Watson is a Cleveland native. She graduated from Remington College Dental Assisting program in the fall of 2016 and is now currently a Dental Assistant in the Periodontics Residency Program here at Case Western University. Angel enjoys the dental field and helping patients feel comfortable and making sure they leave happy because they can enjoy their new smile. She plans to further her career in the dental field by becoming a Dental Hygienist.

# Publications

## Lea Atkins



Lea Atkins recently obtained the position of Department Assistant after moving back to Cleveland in December

2016. She resided in Atlanta, Georgia for the past 16 years where she owned/operated a pet care services company and worked at AT&T in their Atlanta Headquarter Office as a Document Verification and Account Analyst. Originally from Cleveland, Lea was a professional dancer/performance artist. In 1992 she pursued a career in New York City's acclaimed fashion industry. It was in 1997 Lea made a life-changing decision to leave fashion and serve an eight-year tour with the United States Marine Corps working in the Public Affairs Office as a Combat Correspondent. During this time she earned several service ribbons and medals, to include two Navy Achievement Medals, and was awarded "1999 Military Woman of the Year," She enjoys working at CWRU SODM and has an interest in becoming more actively involved in the SODM community as a whole.

## ARTICLES (PUBLISHED AND IN PRESS)

Bissada N, Tsigaradia A:  
Mucogingival Therapy.

Periodontal Literature Review  
Update, AAP 2017.

Re: Simultaneous Detection of  
Oral Pathogens in Subgingival  
Plaque and Prostatic Fluid of Men  
with Periodontal and Prostatic  
Diseases. Estemalik J, Demko C,  
Bissada N, et al: Letter to the  
Editor, *J. Periodontol*, Dec. 2017.

Vernon L, Paes B da Silva A, Seacat J:  
2017. In defense of flossing: Part  
II-can we agree it's premature to  
claim flossing is ineffective to help  
prevent periodontal diseases?  
*Journal of Evidence-Based Dental  
Practice*. (in press)

Abst # 160477

— Smuthkochorn S, Palomo JM,  
Hans MG, Palomo L: Differences  
in bone turnover markers in pre  
and post-menopausal women  
receiving orthodontic treatment.  
*AJODO*. (in press)

— De Baz C, Shemia H, Williams K,  
Palomo L: Quality of Life and  
Poor Oral Health: A Comparison  
of Postmenopausal Women.  
*Dentistry Journal*. (in press)

— Zhang CZ, DeBaz C, Bhandal G,  
Ali F, Buenocamino Francisco  
MC, Thacker H, Palomo JM,  
Palomo L: Buccal bone  
thickness in the esthetic zone  
of postmenopausal women:  
A CBCT analysis. *Implant Dent*.  
2016 Aug;25(4):478-84.

AbdelAzeem H, Bissada N, Demko C,  
Paes A, Lang L: Comparison of Pre-  
Prosthetic Implant Complications  
and Failures Between Obese and  
Non-Obese Patients. *Int J Oral and  
Maxillofacial Implants*. 2016,  
31(5)1093-1099.

Amin P, Bissada N, Ricchetti P,  
Paes A, Demko C: Tuberosity vs  
Palatal Donor Sites for Gingival  
Grafting: A Split Mouth Clinical  
Study (submitted).

Cortellini S, Bissada N:  
Mucogingival Conditions in the  
Natural Dentition: Narrative  
Review, Case Definitions and  
Diagnostic Considerations. *J. of  
Periodontol* and *J. Clinical  
Periodontal* (accepted for  
publication by the World  
Workshop on the Classification of  
Periodontal and Peri-Implant  
Diseases and Conditions).

Dababnehl R, Al-Kaisil N, Haddadl  
N, Al Khouril Z, Bissada N:  
Aggressive gingival metastasis of  
adenocarcinoma of unknown  
origin: Case Report. *J. of Int  
Academy of Periodontol*. 2017.

Estemalik J, Demko C, Bissada N,  
Joshi N, Bodner D, Shankar E,  
Gupta S: Simultaneous Detection  
of Oral Pathogens in Subgingival  
Plaque and Prostatic Fluid of Men  
with Periodontal and Prostatic  
Diseases. *J. of Periodontology*  
2017.

Ozmeric N, Bissada N, Paes A:  
The association between  
inflammatory bowel disease and  
periodontal conditions: Is there a  
common bacterial etiology? *J. Int.  
Academy of Periodontol*. (accepted  
for publication).

Hearty L, Demko C, Bissada N,  
Paes AB: Factors Influencing  
Dental Students' Interest in  
Advanced Periodontal Education:  
Perspectives of Department  
Chairs. *J Dent Educ* 2017 81:691-  
695; doi:10.21815/JDE.016.032

# Welcome Our New Residents



**Dr. Ibrahim Al Ameri** graduated from the University of Baghdad, College of Dentistry in 2008. Upon graduation, he worked as a general dentist prior to moving to the United States following his dream to further his education in dentistry. Dr. Alameri has special interests in periodontics and implant dentistry.



**Dr. Karim Basta** graduated from Ain Shams University in 2010. His interest in periodontics began in his earlier college years where he attended many continuing education courses in periodontics and. Dr. Basta was accepted and began his Fellowship in the Department of Periodontics in January 2017 at Case Western Reserve University, during which he developed a special interest in research.



**Dr. Leela Alluri** graduated from Kamineni Institute of Dental Sciences in India in 2010. She worked as a Research Extern at the Department of Periodontics and Endodontics, University at Buffalo. She received her Oral Medicine Fellowship training in Oral and Maxillofacial Medicine and Diagnostic Sciences from the School of Dental Medicine, Case Western Reserve University.



**Dr. Shabnam Behdin** is a 2009 graduate of Ajman University of Science and Technology in Ajman, United Arab Emirates. Dr. Behdin practiced general dentistry for two years after graduation. She moved to the United States in 2013 to follow her passion in the field of periodontics after acceptance in the Periodontics Program at the University of Michigan. She is very excited to begin her next journey toward achieving her dream in periodontics at Case Western Reserve University.



**Dr. Asma Almijlad** is a graduate of Riyadh Colleges of Dentistry and Pharmacy in Saudi Arabia class of 2012. After graduation she completed a one-year internship at Qassim University and was accepted as an instructor. She later moved to Cleveland for a Fellowship in Periodontics for 18 months. Dr. Almijlad explains, "The time I spent at the department changed my perspective on periodontics. I learned how to do a comprehensive treatment plan that encompasses all the patients' needs, and I am looking forward to clinical and didactic excellence in periodontics."



**Dr. Hazem Saqqal** is a graduate of University of Kalamoon in Syria, class of 2012. Dr. Saqqal practiced general dentistry for two years after graduation. He was accepted in the Fellowship Program in Periodontics at Case Western Reserve University. Recently he received his Master's in Clinical Research. Dr. Saqqal feels it to be a great honor to have this opportunity to obtain a high level of education and accepted as a resident in the Department of Periodontics at such an amazing educational institute as CWRU.

## Fellowship Program

**Dr. Ahmed Alghamdi** is a 2014 graduate of Ibn Sina National College in 2014. He completed a one-year internship in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. Following his internship, he worked at Ibn Sina College and at the Military Forces Hospital. Currently he is enrolled in the Periodontics Fellowship program at Case Western Reserve University and working on a research project involving Alveolar Ridge Augmentation.

## From Dr. Nabil Bissada



We recently congratulated our graduating residents and fellows for a job well done. The international diversity of our postgraduates is something to behold. Almost nineteen countries are represented in our combined postgraduate programs and

that is a testament to our impact on the world. Our popularity is directly associated with the quality of our faculty, which is highlighted on two formal occasions a year at our faculty retreat. During the retreat, we listen to almost twenty minutes of continuous accolades on scholarship, service, appointments and overall distinguished accomplishments by our faculty. The feeling of pride is almost palpable. Let us continue to celebrate our superb legacy every day and show immense pride for our recent 125th anniversary.

This has been another exceptional year and we look forward to what is in the future for the Case Western Reserve School of Dental Medicine. We have done a dynamic job of taking on challenges and establishing an impacting presence within our profession. We are at the center of expansion and progression and I am excited for upcoming developments such as the new Health Education Campus and Dental Clinic that will open in 2019.

The School of Dental Medicine is on a path to innovation and is raising the bar in technology, therapy, and treatment. We recently transitioned to an

electronic records database that will not only increase our efficiency but add convenience for our patients.

In other news, residents are doing well with publications. Several publications have been published during training, contributing major impact in the specialty of periodontics and implants. Our residency program also continues to garner recognition both nationally and internationally.

There have been a high percentage of graduates who have become board certified. Let's congratulate them as well as all of the graduates for moving to the next phase of their professional careers. Incoming residents Ibrahim Al Ameri, Leela Alluri, Asma Almijlad, Karim Basta, Shabnam Behdin and Hazem Saqqal and fellow Ahmed Alghamdi are in great hands with the distinguished faculty and staff who continually deliver a quality clinical experience.

Let's acknowledge and thank Dr. Leena Paloma and Dr. Robert Skillicorn for their commitment to teaching dental students. Your efforts have contributed to an increase in student interest in the area of periodontics. Our continued success and advancement is dependent upon great leaders and a strong foundation.

A big thanks to all of you for your support. Without your generous contributions we would not be able to provide high quality education to our students and great service to our patients. Your support allows us to achieve our goals. This has added more visibility to our school and to the Department of Periodontics.

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**CWRU School of  
Dental Medicine**





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## Department Reception

Boston, MA ■ September 11, 2017



### Save the Date

Join the American Academy of Periodontology (AAP) in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, for the 104th Annual Meeting to be held Oct. 27-30, 2018.