From the Interim Chair

It has been a most productive year for the Department of Periodontics and I will use this opportunity to thank our dedicated faculty, staff, and volunteers—all are integral to our success. With their experience and knowledge, our volunteer faculty bring an important dimension to the instruction we offer to our students. We need to add to our ranks; if you are interested in volunteering in either the undergraduate or graduate clinic, let me hear from you.

Once again, the department has attracted talented new residents and fellows—I extend a warm welcome to them. I remain grateful to Dr. Nabil Bissada who has continued on page 4

Volunteer and Faculty Appreciation Dinner, August 15, 2018

(Left to right) Bottom: Drs. Hui-Jin Lee, Leena Palomo, Nabil F. Bissada, T. Roma Jasinevicius, Rebecca Davis

Top: Drs. Thomas Wilcko, Roger Hess, Robert Skillicorn, Stuart Sears, Constantin Farah, Nishant Joshi, Frederick A. Rosenberg, Paul Ricchetti, Larry Frankel, Andre Paes

The following volunteer faculty members were unable to attend the event. They are: Drs. Peter Amin, Kerry Demascus, Anthony Ficara, Cheryl Krecji, Sangyoon Lee, Neal Murphy, and Imad Nouneh.

A Note from the Dean
Kenneth B. Chance, DDS ’79

I extend greetings to the Department of Periodontics.

It is with great pleasure that I report on the progress of the Health Education Campus (HEC) and our new dental clinic—both remain on schedule to open in summer 2019. Together, Case Western Reserve University and Cleveland Clinic recently announced that the HEC will be named the Shelia and Eric Samson Pavilion in honor of the couple’s generous donation to the project. The 485,000 square-foot Samson Pavilion is part of the 11-acre campus between Euclid and Chester Avenues, with our new dental clinic located on the north side of Chester Avenue.

As our plans and the future of the School of Dental Medicine become a tangible reality, I thank those who have already supported this endeavor. Each department is to be commended for the contributions and efforts made as we prepare together to move into one of the most technologically advanced learning environments in the country—it is, indeed, a state-of-the-future facility.

dean-sodm@case.edu
With both his undergraduate and DDS degrees from The Ohio State University—and his certificate and graduate degree in periodontics from the University of Michigan—Dr. Robert Skillicorn is quick to begin an interview by pointing out that his sentiments are not divided. He is an unequivocal Buckeye fan when it comes to football.

Upon receiving his dental degree in 1968, Dr. Skillicorn served two years as a captain in the Dental Corps of the U.S. Army (Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri) before heading to Michigan. When he completed his graduate work, he returned to Ohio and established a private periodontics practice in Elyria which he enjoyed for 30 years until retiring in 2004. Although he admits (in hindsight) that he perhaps retired too early, Dr. Skillicorn remains active in the profession through teaching.

In 1973, the same year that he opened his practice, Dr. Skillicorn joined the CWRU faculty as an associate clinical professor and continues to serve as an associate professor—he only recently decided on a three-day rather than a four-day week. An active member of the Lorain County Dental Society (and its former president), he has been involved in the Dental Hygiene Program at Lorain County Community College since its inception and is still a member of its Dental Advisory Committee.

When asked about his teaching tenure at CWRU, Dr. Skillicorn notes that it has had two distinct parts, both of which have been satisfying. As a clinical instructor teaching graduate periodontists-to-be while he was still practicing, the focus was largely on procedures and the patient in the chair. But when he began teaching undergraduates 12 years ago, he discovered that lecturing and walking the students through a diagnosis was truly fulfilling.

“I appreciate that I have been given such an opportunity to develop our students. With the huge progress being made in the science of periodontics, it is important that we give them a solid background,” explains Dr. Skillicorn.

When not teaching, Dr. Skillicorn and his wife Judy devote their time to travel and grandchildren. This spring they are taking the whole family to the Isle of Man (home of their ancestors) in a reprise of a trip that the family took there more than 30 years ago.

After more than four decades of leading the Department of Periodontics, Dr. Nabil Bissada has stepped up to a new challenge. Named the Associate Dean for Global Relations, it is an appointment that reflects Dr. Bissada’s passionate personal commitment to the growing importance of international engagement in higher education.

Dr. Bissada played a pivotal role in catalyzing the dental school’s formal partnership with Future University in Cairo, as well as with Qassim University in Saudi Arabia, based on CWRU’s innovative dental curriculum. He was a part of both of the Middle East signing ceremonies, along with Dean Kenneth Chance and CWRU’s Vice Provost for International Affairs David Flesher. Arrangements with a dental school in Italy and India (at their request) are currently in progress.

Dr. Bissada brings a distinguished history in research and education to this new role. He has authored or co-authored more than 165 journal articles and received multiple honors for his leadership in periodontics education.

In keeping with CWRU’s robust Plan for Internationalization, one of the University’s stated global initiatives is “to support faculty and staff in order to develop new and strengthen existing international relationships while providing support for expanding international understanding and engagement.”

To that end, Dr. Bissada is member of the CWRU Advisory Board for the International Council and is a member of the newly formed committee overseeing the University’s international travel risk management policy.
Awards & Service

Students of Dr. Andre Paes:
Andrew Guirgis '20 received a first place SCADA Award (Student Competition for Advancing Dental Research and its Application) co-sponsored by Dentsply Sirona and the American Association of Dental Research (AADR), for The Media's Impact on Patient's Use of Dental Floss on Plaque Removal and Oral Health. He will represent the school at the AADR meeting in Vancouver, British Columbia.

Amer Shatta '18 earned first place for the school's annual Professionals Day Graduate Student Award for Radiographic Pattern of Bone Loss in Periimplantitis.

Student of Dr. Leena Paloma:
Nameeta Gupta received four awards for her topic Social Determinants of Periodontitis:
- 2017 SCADA Award (Student Competition for Advancing Dental Research and its Application);
- Enbloc Travel Award sponsored by International Association of Dental Research;
- Colgate Research Award from the American Association of Women Dentists; and
- Foundations of Medicine, Society and Culture Travel Grant from the CWRU Department of Bioethics.

Faculty Awards
Award for Outstanding Teaching and Mentoring in Periodontics at CWRU from the American Academy of Periodontology:
2017 – Assistant Professor Andre Paes, DDS, MSc, PhD
2018 – Professor and Associate Dean for Global Relations Nabil F. Bissada, DDS, MSD

Paul D. Richetti, DDS, MScD received a Charles W. Finley Visiting Scholar Education Grant from the American Academy of Periodontology Foundation for a lecture by Hom-Lay Wang, DDS '89, MSD '87, PhD (now at the University of Michigan).

Research Awards
Tuberosity vs. Palatal Donor Sites for Soft Tissue Grafting: A Split-Mouth Clinical Study. Amin, Bissada, Richetti, Paes B. Silva, Demko (see list of publications for full citation) was presented as follows:
- The Graduate Student Research Forum in The Midwest Society of Periodontology Annual Meeting (February 2017); first place in the Oral Research Competition
- The University of North Carolina Golden Jubilee Periodontics Expo Meeting (May 2017); selected as a winning abstract
- CWRU Research Professionals Day (March 2017); First Place Award

Faculty Service
Dr. Leena Paloma judged the ADA/Volpe Periodontology Resident Research Competition; Chaired the American Academy of Periodontology DMD Program Directors Organization at ADEA Annual Session; and served as Examiner at the American Board of Periodontology.

Dr. Nabil Bissada was selected vice president of the Midwest Society for Periodontology (for 2018).
From the Interim Chair continued

taken on the challenge of serving as Associate Dean for Global Relations as we continue to strengthen our partnerships with the international dental community, taking our fine reputation around the globe. I also acknowledge his participation in the AAP Update to the Classification of Periodontal Diseases and Conditions—a milestone for this specialty as it moves forward into the future.

In addition to the accomplishments that you will read about in this issue, I thank Dean Chance for sharing the progress being made on the new Health Education Campus and Dental Clinic—we are in countdown mode for next summer. If you are returning to campus for homecoming (we hope to see you) do take time to visit the Cleveland Clinic campus and check out our new home. Finally, please have my personal invitation to join the CWRU reception at the upcoming AAP Annual Meeting (October 27-30) in Vancouver.

With deep appreciation for all who support the Department of Periodontics, here’s to a great year ahead.

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Welcome New Residents & Fellows

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 to follow his dream to further his education in dentistry. He completed the CWRU Periodontics Fellowship Program in 2017 and has special interests in periodontics and implant dentistry.

Dr. Karim Basta graduated from Ain Shams University (Cairo) in 2010 and completed the CWRU Periodontics Fellowship Program in 2017. His interests in periodontics began in his early college years where he took many continuing education courses in periodontics and implants and he developed a special interest in research during his fellowship.

Fellows

Dr. Mercurious “Mark” Mina graduated from Misr International University (Cairo) with a BDS in dental science. He served as president of the Dental Students Scientific Association and represented Egypt at the annual FDI World Dental Congress in Madrid in 2017. Dr. Mina hopes to use his time at CWRU to expand his research ability and skills, with a particular focus on the correlation between oral health and systemic disease which he views as the new era in periodontics given the advanced research tools available.

Dr. Muhammad Suhail graduated in 2014 from the Lahore Medical & Dental College (Pakistan) where he was awarded third position in Gold Medals for exceptional performance. He then worked as an associate general dentist at one of the most renowned practices in the country with a periodontist and prosthodontist for two years following his internship. Dr. Suhail aspires to practice periodontics to give back to his school and society as much as he can.

Dr. Hala Al Barrak graduated with a dental medicine and surgery degree from Qassim University (Saudi Arabia) and continued to build her academic credentials with a one-year internship. She joined the Fellowship Program in the Periodontics Department at Qassim as a teaching assistant. As a result of her avid interest, she was awarded a scholarship to continue post-doctorate training in the United States and intends to become a licensed periodontist.
Publications


Palomo L., Thacker H.L. **Postmenopausal Bone Loss, Periodontitis and Tooth Loss Are All Linked.** Menopause April 2018.


Moussa, E., Bissada, N.F. **Comparative Outcomes of Class III Miller Gingival Recession Treatment Utilizing the Tunnel or CAF Approaches. A Case Report.** Clinical Advances in Periodontics 2017; 7:35-41.


Alumni of Note: Veronica W. Ng, DDS ’93, MSD ’97

Paying It Forward: Inspiring Students to Give Back

With Cleveland roots (she lived here during her high school years), Dr. Veronica Ng chose CWRU for her undergraduate studies in biology and stayed for dental school and her specialty training. The Hong Kong-born Ng, who holds dual U.S.-Canadian citizenship, began her periodontal practice in 1997 in Cambridge, Ontario while teaching fulltime at the School of Dentistry, University of Detroit Mercy.

Dr. Ng then relocated to Michigan where she maintains a private practice—Periodontal Specialists—with offices in Flint, Grand Blanc, and Clarkston. Her home is near Ann Arbor where she has served as an adjunctive clinical assistant professor at the University of Michigan School of Dentistry for more than 13 years. Also an assistant professor at CWRU, she lectures occasionally at the dental school and frequently returns to Cleveland to visit family, friends, and colleagues.

“My daughter Lauren is a senior in high school and is interested in medicine and dentistry—we recently visited CWRU and so we shall see,” Dr. Ng explains.

A loyal supporter of the dental school, Dr. Ng served two terms on the Board of Directors of the Alumni Association and is a generous and consistent donor. Giving back is important to her—she deems the opportunities that she was given at CWRU are what made her who she is today. She notes that her preceptor, Dr. Marsha Pyle (now the Dean of the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Dentistry), was an important role model.

“I hope that what I do inspires students to give back as well. Not only to support the dental school for the benefit of those who will follow them, but to be an example for our profession,” she notes. “An important part of my mentorship is teaching them about giving back.”

A Diplomate of the American Board of Periodontology, Dr. Ng is a past delegate to the Michigan Dental Association. She is also a member of the American Academy of Periodontology, American Dental Association, Detroit District Society, and Michigan Periodontal Society. In addition, she is the recipient of the Joseph Silber Fellowship Award from the American Cancer Society, and the Pierre Fauchard Academy Award and Outstanding Leadership Award from the American Association of Women Dentists.

To join the CWRU School of Dental Medicine Alumni Association or to make a donation to the Department of Periodontology, contact the Office of Development & Alumni Relations at 216.368-5758 or email dentalalumni@case.edu.

In Memoriam

“We have lost two of our talented graduates too soon, but remain grateful for their contributions to our profession and the world. They will be missed.” – Dr. Nabil Bissada

Ahmed Alzahrani, BDS, MSD ‘12
Dr. Alzahrani, who earned his MSD and Certificate of Periodontics at CWRU in 2012, was an assistant professor at the College of Dental Medicine, Umm Al-Qura University (Saudi Arabia). He received his bachelor’s degree in Dental Medicine & Surgery from King Abdulaziz University in 2006.

Juzer Chinwalla, DDS ’92, MSD ’95
Dr. Chinwalla had a private practice in Chicago’s western suburbs of Bloomington and Darien. He served on the faculty of the Dental School of the University of Illinois at Chicago and was currently an adjunct faculty member at the Midwestern University School of Dental Medicine.
AAP Provides Comprehensive Update to Classification of Periodontal Diseases and Conditions

Two years in the making, the proceedings from the 2017 World Workshop on the Classification of Periodontal and Peri-Implant Diseases and Conditions have been published in AAP’s *Journal of Periodontology* and the European Federation of Periodontology’s (EFP) *Journal of Clinical Periodontology*.

Together with colleagues from around the world, Dr. Nabil Bissada served on Workgroup 3 which authored the consensus report *Periodontal Manifestations of Systemic Diseases and Developmental and Acquired Conditions*.

The proceedings resulted from years of collaboration between the AAP and EFP to provide a comprehensive update to the previous disease classification established at the 1999 International Workshop for Classification of Periodontal Diseases and Conditions. The proceedings include:

- A re-categorization of various forms of periodontitis;
- The development of a novel staging and grading system for periodontitis; and
- The inaugural classification for peri-implant diseases and conditions.

“Because of its inclusion of international researchers, educators, and clinicians, the Workshop created a global consensus by which care can be standardized and modernized for patients and practitioners everywhere,” noted Dr. Steven Daniels, AAP President.

Visit perio.org/2017wwdc for Workshop proceedings and more information.

Updates on Recent Graduates

Peter Amin, BDS, MSD ’17 is practicing at Cresta Dental Implants in Middleburg Heights, Ohio and teaching part-time at CWRU in the Department of Periodontics. He recently became a Diplomate of the American Board of Periodontology and has published one paper in *Quintessence International Journal* “Tuberosity versus Palatal Donor Sites for Soft Tissue Grafting: A Split Mouth Clinical Study” with Dr. Bissada and several others.

Basmah Al-Amiri, BSD, MSD ’17 is a periodontist at Kuwait Hospital and is on a teaching team at Kuwait University in the periodontal department which was one of his goals resulting from the great influence of Dr. Bissada during his time at CWRU.

Ernest Erian, BDS, MSD ’16 accepted a one-year implant restorative fellowship at Louisiana State University in which he got extensive training in handling full-mouth implant rehabilitation cases and became an ABP Diplomate. He has joined a periodontics practice in East Baton Rouge and is an assistant professor at LSU Department of Periodontics. Currently he is working on a study that is examining the effects of orthodontic tooth movement on bone regeneration (it is still in review).

Mark Hebeish, DDS, MSD ’17 became a Diplomate of the American Board of Periodontology. He is now practicing in a private office in Dayton, Ohio. His goals while practicing are to aim toward more involvement in research and volunteering in teaching institutions.

Ehab Moussa, BSD, MSD ’16 became a Diplomate of the American Board of Periodontology.
SAVE THE DATE & JOIN US
October 29, 2018
CWRU Dental Medicine Vancouver Reception
Fairmont Waterfront
900 Canada Place
Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada
6:30-8pm

American Academy of Periodontology Annual Meeting
RSVP to dentalalumi@case.edu or 216.368.5758