

Orthodontic News

'JIMMY' TENG, D.D.S., M.S., ENRICHES STUDENTS' STUDIES AT THE SCHOOL— AND COMES AWAY ENRICHED HIMSELF



Mark Hans, D.D.S., M.S.D. '79, '81

A NOTE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

This is an important year for the School of Dental Medicine and the Department of Orthodontics. In October, we will be greeting representatives from the American Dental Association's Commission on Dental Accreditation. The commission is the body charged with reviewing the graduate orthodontic training program every seven years, and it's no exaggeration to say that it's a crucial time for all of us here at the school. Without accreditation, there is no program.

As part of the accreditation process we will be conducting a survey of all alumni. The survey will be online using a service called Survey Monkey. You will receive your survey invitation via e-mail. On the surface, accreditation may appear to be an onerous process whereby we must "prove we're doing what we say we're doing." But it is a much more positive experience than that. It allows us to see ourselves through someone else's eyes and gives us an opportunity to engage in strategic planning and to set long-term goals. I thank you in advance for your part in the process, and look forward to compiling the survey results to document the success of our graduates.

While our short-term goal is to retain our fully accredited status, our long-term goals include expanding our digital imaging capabilities, building international partnerships with Peking University in Beijing, China and Manipal University in Manipal, India, and creating a longitudinal database of 3D cone beam images to complement our existing 2D Bolton Brush Collection. CWRU Ortho and the Bolton Study hosted the first meeting of the Joint Cephalometric Experts Group (JCEG) last year. The purpose of JCEG is to map out a plan for the transition from 2D cephalometrics to 3D cone beam imaging for assessment of orthodontic outcomes, as well as diagnosis and treatment planning. We are proud to be charter members of JCEG. Watch for JCEG updates in Seminars in Orthodontics and the AJO-DO next year.

Finally, the success of the Department of Orthodontics is due to our faculty. We have been fortunate to attract the brightest and best from the Cleveland area and throughout the world. This year we are recognizing and thanking the following volunteer faculty who have each contributed more than 1,000 hours to our training program: Lisa Alverto-Rossman '93, Joseph Belhobek '72, Charles Boester '70, Elizabeth Bujack '82, Norman DeLoach, Donald Gustovich '80, Thomas Herberger, William Koenig '80, Howard Kossoff '75, Kenneth Lawrence, Kunihiko Miyashita, Michael Sabat '66, Sharon Schmahl '96, Chi-Min Teng, Ryan Wenger '98, Terrence Wenger '67, John White '82, and Gary Wolf.

Best wishes,
Mark Hans, D.D.S., M.S.D. '79, '81
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One of the reasons that the Case Western Reserve School of Dental Medicine consistently ranks among the best in the country is its ability to tap the knowledge of the finest dentists from around the globe.

The orthodontics department, for example, is pleased and honored to continue its long-standing relationship with Chi-Min "Jimmy" Teng, D.D.S., M.S., a guest clinical professor at Peking University, a guest clinical professor at Taipei Medical University, a clinical professor at the National Defense Medical College in Taipei, and a faculty member of the Charles H. Tweed International Foundation for Orthodontic Research and Education in Tucson, AZ.



Chi-Min "Jimmy" Teng, D.D.S., M.S.

Dr. Teng is a founding member of the Case-China Project and an adjunct professor of orthodontics at Case Western Reserve University. Once each year, he takes time away from his busy orthodontic practice in Taipei, Taiwan, to visit the CWRU dental school. He teaches the pre-Tweed course here with Professor of Orthodontics Arthur E. Phelps, D.D.S. '48.

The Tweed course is an intensive 11-day experience in advanced edgewise mechanics, differential diagnosis, and the landmark Tweed-Merrifield force system. According to Dr. Teng, the Tweed course is unmatched in any medical or dental field for its longevity.

"This year marks the sixty-third year since the Tweed Foundation began," Dr. Teng said. "And in April, the Tweed Foundation will have conducted its 100th course in Tucson, AZ. There is no other specialty course out there like the Tweed course."

Relationships first brought Dr. Teng to CWRU in 1997. Dr. Teng earned his M.S. degree from St. Louis University, where he learned Tweed-Merrifield techniques from Dr. Phelps, who at the time was clinical director of the CWRU dental school's Orthodontic Department. Dr. Teng also studied under the world-renowned orthodontic scholar Dr. Lysle E. Johnston. "Both Dr. Phelps and Dr. Johnston came from Case Western Reserve University, so in a way I can say that I, too, learned orthodontics from Case Western Reserve University," Dr. Teng said.

The relationships that brought Dr. Teng to the CWRU dental school continue today through Department Chairman Mark Hans, D.D.S., M.S.D. '79, '81. Dr. Teng regularly visits the CWRU dental school as a guest instructor while Dr. Hans co-teaches an orthodontics course with Dr. Teng at Peking, Jiaotong, and Nanchang universities.

The give-and-take between having Dr. Teng as an adjunct professor on staff and Dr. Hans teaching with him in China is just one example of how the CWRU dental school and the Department of Orthodontics work to improve dental health globally.

"It was a real honor when I first came to Case Western Reserve University and started working with Dr. Phelps in 1997," Dr. Teng said. "And I have found that not only have I been able to share my knowledge, but I have also learned just as much from exchanges with the faculty and students. Moreover, I have a sense of accomplishment teaching the high-achieving students here because I know that they will also succeed in orthodontics in the future. The high standards of achievement here are why the CWRU dental school is so well-known and highly regarded around the world. The CWRU dental school constantly seeks to improve the field of orthodontics, and it has been a real honor both professionally and personally to work with the people here and contribute to that mission."

SCENES FROM THE 2009 AAO MEETING



CASE WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE

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Orthodontic News

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CRITICAL THINKING IS THE KEY TO SUCCESS IN ORTHODONTICS, SAYS NEW PROGRAM DIRECTOR J. MARTIN PALOMO, D.D.S., M.S.D.



J. Martin Palomo, D.D.S., M.S.D. '97

J. Martin Palomo, D.D.S., M.S.D. '97, the recently appointed program director of the Orthodontics Department, wants to develop critical thinkers.

"My primary goal is to train the residents' minds to critically evaluate products and situations with the purpose of preparing students for the rest of their careers. If we just train residents to use today's products and react to today's situations, there may be no evolution. We want them to continue to learn, and be able to make good and productive decisions," Dr. Palomo says.

"During residency, students experience firsthand that there are several good treatment means to an end. Seeing different ways stimulates thinking. To efficiently have this

unbiased experience, we bring in orthodontists who perform such tasks in specific ways on a routine basis, exposing residents to different products, techniques, and even philosophies. Understanding how each technique works, rather than just following step-by-step directions, prepares residents to be open to the new advances they will experience during their careers. Our method of teaching is relatively unique among orthodontic residencies. A critical, adaptive thinker is our desired end result."

Dr. Palomo is a graduate of the Orthodontics Department and has served on the faculty since 1997. He is also the director of the Craniofacial Imaging Center, one of the pioneer centers to offer Cone Beam CT technology. Dr. Palomo's main research topic is craniofacial imaging, specifically related to CBCT; he has several publications on the topic, and has presented his work in both national and international venues.

As the program director of the Orthodontics Department, he is responsible for all elements of the residency program, including didactic and clinical education, policies, and requirements.

He takes over the program director role from Department Chairman **Mark G. Hans, D.D.S., M.S.D. '79, '81**, who has moved up to associate dean for graduate studies.

"Dr. Hans is enjoying his new role, and he assigned me to take his previous role as program director," Dr. Palomo says. "The challenge for me is to continue the good work that Dr. Hans has been doing in bringing the program forward and achieving both national and international recognition."

"I am pleased Marty agreed to take over as graduate program director," says Dr. Hans. "He is an enthusiastic leader and brings fresh ideas and a new perspective to the position. I am confident the program will be stronger than ever under his direction."

"One of my favorite strengths of our program is the team spirit we have among residents, staff, and faculty," Dr. Palomo adds. "Everybody is approachable and wants to work for a common goal."

Dr. Palomo is married to Leena, D.D.S. '00, who is a periodontist and faculty member at CWRU. They have a 4-year-old daughter and three dogs.

INCOMING RESIDENTS



Jesse Carmen, son of Ron Carmen, D.D.S., M.S., '73, apparently does not get caught up in sports rivalries. A native of Columbus, he received his undergraduate degree at the University of Michigan, then returned to Columbus to attend The Ohio State University College of Dentistry (Class of 2009). He has also conducted research at the New York University College of Dentistry, where he focused on the cariology of *Lactobacillus*. "I chose the CWRU School of Dental Medicine because it offers a great blend of both the clinical and research aspects of orthodontics. I was also impressed with the program's welcoming and friendly environment," he says. Carmen's research interests include growth and development, as well as temporomandibular dysfunction.

Mike Miyamoto was born and raised in Denver, CO, and received his D.D.S. from the University of Southern California. He applied to the CWRU



dental school after it came very highly recommended from an orthodontic instructor at USC. "I also really enjoyed my time on campus during the interview process," he says. Miyamoto's ultimate goal is to work in private practice as an orthodontist, coach baseball, teach, and spend time with his family. He adds that his father is a dentist, and his sister will begin dental school next year at New York University.



Aparna Chitharanjan comes to the CWRU dental school from Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India. She graduated from Sri Ramachandra Dental College with a B.D.S. (bachelor in dental surgery). She says that after graduating and completing an internship, it was clear to her that she will one day start a practice in India. However, she wanted to pursue her master's degree in the United States and learn the latest techniques in orthodontics. "CWRU was my first in the choices of colleges," she says. "I wanted to be in an environment that has an

equal balance of practical training as well as research." Ultimately, Chitharanjan would like to bring back to India the concept of dentistry being a multispecialty field, raise the level of care, shorten treatment time, and deliver excellent results. Chitharanjan has nearly 20 years training as an Indian classical dancer, and arrives in Cleveland having never seen snow.

Rongning (Grace) Wu is a native of Nanjing, China. She graduated from Stomatological College of Nanjing Medical University in July 2007. In 2008, CWRU Adjunct Professor of Orthodontics Jimmy Teng, D.D.S., M.S., recommended that she study as an orthodontics fellow in the CWRU dental school. Her research interests include cephalometric superimposition using a 3-D method. After graduation, Wu says she will spare no effort to impart her knowledge and experience to her students, and would like to "bridge the gap" between Chinese and U.S. orthodontics.

