



Mark Hans,  
DDS, MSD '79, '81

## From the Chairman

Greetings from all of us here in Cleveland. I am pleased to have this opportunity to update you on what is happening in the department. As you no doubt have heard,

we are moving to a new building in 2019. Planning is moving along nicely and we will have a 20-chair open concept clinic for our orthodontic residents as well as a four-chair private operator clinic for our craniofacial/special needs program. In the new building, we will have something we have not seen in 20 years, natural sunlight! If you want to take one last look at your old digs you will have to visit before July of 2019. Progress is a wonderful thing and I want to acknowledge the hard work of Dean Ken Chance and all the faculty and administrators here at the dental school to make this move happen. It seems every 50 years you build a new school, so it is time.

In addition to moving into our new space, we will be finding a new home for the Bolton-Brush Growth Study Center. Currently housed on the third floor of the dental school, the center continues to be the centerpiece of the department's research activity. We currently have four externally funded projects. We receive ongoing support from the American Association of Orthodontists Foundation (AAOF) as part of the Legacy Collection ([www.aaoflegacycollection.org](http://www.aaoflegacycollection.org)). This year the website had over 10,000 visitors from around the world. The Bolton-Brush Center is the largest and the most used collection among the eight Legacy participants. We are proud of our leadership role in this landmark project and the international recognition it brings to CWRU. In addition to AAOF support, Dr. Manish Valiathan is co-investigator on a 5-year, \$2.7-million grant from the National Institute of Health that seeks to explore the use of longitudinal cephalometric data

*continued on page 2*



## From the Dean Kenneth Chance, DDS '79

Our dental clinic plans are progressing well. Your department has participated in the schematic phase and is now working in the design development phase. It is planned that site excavation will begin in April. Both the education building and the dental clinic will be completed by June 2019.

In other news, our 125th Anniversary Celebration is building momentum since the kick off at the October 2016 Homecoming. We have a nine-city "Meet and Greet Events Tour" leading to our extravaganza on October 7, 2017. I hope you will return to Cleveland for the fun.

More updates will be forthcoming via email to keep you informed of our progress on these exciting projects. I invite you to volunteer with the orthodontics department towards the efforts of building a stronger program.

*dean-sodm@case.edu*



# From the Residency Program Director



*J. Martin Palomo, DDS,  
MSD '97*

As Ohio native and groundbreaking leader Charles F. Kettering said, "The world hates change, yet it is the only thing that has brought progress." So, there is progress and change happening in our residency program, more specifically in our clinics. We now have both a clinic manager, Tina Cooke, and a clinic director, Dr. Howard Kossoff. Even though at first their responsibilities may seem to overlap, their functions are very different and important on their own. Howard is responsible for the selection of patients in our teenage clinic, performing every single screening and

introducing every potential patient to our clinic. Tina works the financial part, and perhaps even more importantly, the software and clinic control portion. Together we form a great team that will cover all bases. You can learn a little more about Howard Kossoff and Tina Cooke in this newsletter.

The class of 2016 has been out for little over a year, and everybody is working, with 4 out of 5 already board certified for 10 years, and all using cases treated in our clinic. This is the new standard and expectation for our graduates. In the clinic, we are already getting ready for the new class that will come in mid-June. You can learn a little about them in this newsletter. In the clinic, we have new faces joining us, Dr. Valerie Martone, who is also featured here, Dr. Felix Gen, who is starting in our clinic soon, and back after a short break is Dr. Gary Wolf.

Other news includes us hosting the Graduate Orthodontic Residents Program (GORP) in downtown Cleveland, with a reception at the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame, and a publication by our recent graduate, Dr. Tarek Elshebiny, in a leading medical journal with an impact factor of 13.2. I don't think there is a dental journal with an impact factor of more than 5. No wonder this news reached over 3,000 people when we posted it on Facebook! For more information and to stay up to date with what happens in the orthodontic residency program, you can go to our Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/CaseOrtho](http://www.facebook.com/CaseOrtho).

*palomo@case.edu*

*From the Chairman continued*

to predict future growth. Dr. Martin Palomo has a clinical grant from Dentsply-GAC and is funded by Align Technologies to see if aligners can create torque on posterior teeth. He is working on the Invisalign grant with long-time Core Clinic faculty member and aligner expert, Dr. John White, as well as one of our recent graduates, Dr. Sofia Xofylli. World-famous anthropologist Dr. Bruce Latimer leads the Manot Cave excavation project in Northern Israel and is funded by the BiNational Foundation, a joint partnership between the United States and Israel to foster international collaboration. Resident research projects in the areas of 3D imaging and sleep apnea round out our research portfolio.

On the service front, we continue to provide orthodontic care to underserved populations in Cleveland and the surrounding suburbs. Last year we logged over 20,000 patient visits among the orthodontic training program, faculty practice, and craniofacial training program. We continue to look for opportunities to expand our services and plan on offering home testing for sleep apnea as well as smoking cessation programs in the near future.

Lastly, I want to remind all of you to attend our alumni reception in San Diego this April. This year marks the rebirth of the Orthodontic Alumni Association under the direction of Drs. Jed Hildebrand and Cliff Lowdenback. Jed and Cliff will be on hand to discuss plans for the future of the association and your involvement.

Thanks again for all your support to make CWRU Orthodontics a leader in the United States and abroad.

*mark.hans@case.edu*

# Welcome New Residents



## **Brittany Burwell**

Dr. Brittany Burwell is originally from Troy, MI. As a United States Air Force scholarship recipient, she graduated from Case Western Reserve University School of Dental Medicine in 2012. She completed an AEGD-1 Residency at Travis Air Force Base in California, and has been practicing general dentistry with the Air Force in Washington, DC since 2013. She also enjoys traveling, photography, yoga, and paddle boarding.



## **Konstantinos Apostolopoulos**

Konstantinos Apostolopoulos is originally from Athens, Greece. He graduated from National and Kapodistrian University of Athens School of Dentistry in 2014, and has been practicing dentistry in Greece since 2012. He has also been involved with laboratory research in the Department of Experimental Surgery at the University of Athens since 2015. "My research interests led me to the field of orthodontics, and I am excited to be joining the orthodontics department at Case Western Reserve University this year," he says. Konstantinos enjoys basketball, swimming, volleyball, and reading in his free time.



## **Dahye J. McKenna**

Dahye McKenna is originally from Seoul, South Korea. She attended Case Western Reserve University for her undergraduate studies and received a BS degree in Biology. She will graduate from the CWRU DMD program in May. She says, "It is my pleasure to be a part of the Orthodontic family at CWRU, and I'm excited to start my new journey at my home school!" Dahye also enjoys cooking, exercising, and spending time with family and friends.



## **Sherif Elbarnashawy**

Sherif Elbarnashawy completed his undergraduate degree at Cairo University in 2011, followed by a one-year internship at the school hospital. Afterward, he joined the National Egyptian Research Center as a research assistant in the orthodontic department. In 2014, Sherif returned to Cairo University as a faculty member in the oral radiology department while concurrently working in private orthodontic practice, where he found his passion for creating beautiful smiles. He says, "As an orthodontic fellow at CWRU, I was extremely thrilled to be a part of the orthodontic family at one of the world-renowned schools. I found myself in a healthy educational atmosphere surrounded by the latest facilities in both orthodontics and imaging." Additionally, Sherif is a water sports enthusiast and enjoys traveling with friends, camping, and playing tennis in his free time.



## **Elisabeth (Ella) Banasik**

Ella Banasik received her dental degree from the Philipps University in Marburg, Germany. She then completed two years of advanced training in general dentistry at CWRU before joining the orthodontic department first as a fellow and now as a resident. Ella says, "Throughout the years the more exposure to dentistry I had, the more I was drawn to the elegance of orthodontic diagnosis and treatment planning, and to the variety and sophistication of treatment options." She enjoys living in Rocky River with her boyfriend, Michael. They enjoy being out on the lake, running in the Metroparks, and cheering for the Indians. "I am very excited to be able to pursue my specialty training at an orthodontic department with an outstanding reputation and history in a friendly and lively city."

## Faculty Profile

# Howard Kossoff, DDS, MS '75

## Clinic Director



Howard Kossoff,  
DDS, MS '75

Dr. Howard Kossoff is an associate clinical professor of orthodontics and the new clinical director (actually, he was previously the clinical director during the Lysle Johnston era) of the orthodontics department at CWRU. Dr. Kossoff was born and raised in Cleveland, and has been involved with the department since the early 70s.

Howard graduated from The Ohio State University College of Dentistry in 1971 and spent 2 years at Ft. Bragg Army Base in North Carolina before returning to Cleveland. In 1973, Dr. Kossoff began his postdoc in the orthodontics department at CWRU, and he began teaching in the school of dentistry in 1975. He also spent some time teaching elementary orthodontics to the pediatric dentistry residents at University Hospital and served on the craniofacial team for several years.

At an early age, Dr. Kossoff had an interest in mechanics and he enjoyed working on cars. His father was a general dentist, but Dr. Kossoff was fascinated by orthodontics. He recalls growing up in the era when polio was not uncommon, which caused problems with muscle coordination around the mouth (and elsewhere). This loss of muscle control resulted in malocclusions when none existed before. Orthodontists, along with other types of providers, were able to treat some of these cases. Dr. Kossoff says that working in a team setting to fix developmental problems in kids is very rewarding, especially when the end results are smiling, happy kids and parents.

Today, Dr. Kossoff has retired from private practice (in 2011) but not from orthodontic education in which he has participated at CWRU since the day he graduated from his orthodontic residency in 1975. Many aspects of orthodontics have evolved since then, but Dr. Kossoff sees his current role as mentoring the next generation of orthodontists. He says, "**Orthodontics is**

**a wonderful profession, but it's not as easy to become successful as it used to be."** Competition is more of a factor now than ever before; excellence in education and having the knowledge to deal with situations where the patient doesn't respond as the textbooks say is what will separate us who **are** orthodontists from those who "do orthodontics" for their patients. Dr. Kossoff's vision is to make the department run as much like a well-run group private orthodontic practice as possible, including everything that goes along with having a practice: HIPAA compliance, taking notes, auxiliary interactions, and patient interactions (including parents). The goal is to prepare students for the next step, with emphasis on taking time with patients to understand the history and explain the options and being able to deal with atypical situations. "**The ones who best know how [to do this] will survive,"** he says. When asked about his philosophy on retirement, Dr. Kossoff says that those who retire *from* something die younger, so he chooses to retire *to* something instead. Taking on the role of Clinical Director (again) is great timing, he adds.

"One of the recent exciting and welcome changes in the department is the arrival of Tina Cooke as Clinic Business manager. Her vast experience in daily running of busy orthodontic practices is a huge and welcome change in our staffing. Welcome on board, Tina!"

This spring, Dr. Kossoff will be attending the AAO meeting in San Diego in search of new knowledge (and equipment for the clinic). He also looks forward to visiting Manot Cave in Israel this summer, where archeologists are unearthing 60,000-year-old human teeth and jaw bones. In the fall of this year, Dr. Kossoff, as well as the rest of the department, will be hosting GORP at CWRU, which will bring hundreds of orthodontic residents from other programs to the CWRU campus. There are also many exciting changes coming in the next few years, such as the department's move to a new location and facility on the Cleveland Clinic campus. Dr. Kossoff says, "I am looking forward to this exciting future and plan to participate and facilitate these changes in our already outstanding program for as long as I am physically able."

## From the Craniofacial Fellowship Director Manish Valiathan, DDS, MSD '99



*Manish Valiathan, DDS,  
MSD '99*

The success of any program is dependent on several key individuals. For a hospital-based craniofacial orthodontic program, it also depends on multiple institutions. We are fortunate to continue to enjoy the support of the administrators of University Hospitals of Cleveland, the School of Dental Medicine, and our own Orthodontic Department.

Among the several individuals who play a critical role in the functioning of our program, I would first like to highlight our craniofacial clinic coordinator, Mrs. Debra Tomsick. Deb took over as the Program Coordinator in 2016 and has adapted seamlessly to the numerous tasks assigned to her position. Her kind and considerate demeanor resonate well with our patients, staff from other services, and our fellows. Her attention to detail and strong work ethic allow her to complete all her responsibilities, not limited to, but including: handling inter-institutional schedules of the fellows, patient schedules and billing responsibilities, and credentialing the fellows at different hospitals in the area. You will learn more about Deb in this newsletter.

Drs. Christopher Spoonhower and Mark Hans continue to provide valuable instruction to our fellows as we look to add additional orthodontic faculty to our program this upcoming year. The support from the services at Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital, particularly those of pediatric plastic surgery, social work, speech, and ENT, are critical in the educational mission of our program. The dental school faculty play an equally important role led by the faculty and staff in the departments of oral and maxillofacial surgery (Drs. Baur and Quereshy) as well as pediatric dentistry (Dr. Ferretti and Ms. Chandra Drew).

In other news, we have two individuals representing our program at the American Cleft Palate Association Annual Meeting in Denver, Colorado later this year. Dr. Nicholas Kochenour, as you may know, is a recent

graduate (2016). His report on the novel management of a pre-alveolar bone graft child with a bilateral cleft will be presented as a poster. Paul Bigg is a dental student, and he will be presenting his work on the estimated burden of care families endure in the rehabilitation of children born with a cleft lip and palate. Good luck to Nick and Paul.

I am excited to report that Nick will be the primary craniofacial provider at Akron Children's Hospital. This is an excellent opportunity for him and our program to explore deeper and more meaningful collaboration outside of Cleveland.

"I was very fortunate to have the opportunity to train under and learn from Dr. Valiathan throughout my time at CWRU. I consider myself blessed as I start my career as a craniofacial orthodontist at Akron Children's Hospital to have him as my mentor and friend." – Nick Kochenour, DMD

Dr. Suliman Shahin (Graduate in June of 2016) provides care in Saudi Arabia, his home country, and is active as a faculty member in Dammam University. It is indeed gratifying to note that both recent graduates are contributing at a high level in this field. Congratulations to both of our graduates.



*Dr. Abdulaziz  
Mohammed*

I am pleased to announce our incoming craniofacial fellow, **Dr. Abdulaziz Mohammed** (Dr. Aziz). He is originally from Kuwait and is completing an orthodontic residency and masters degree at UCLA in June. Dr. Aziz studied medicine and biology at Kuwait University before coming to the United States for specialty training. "I would like to use the clinical and research skills gained at CWRU to treat craniofacial patients in Qatar. I am working for the government's central hospital where all advanced and challenging cases are treated. Once I graduate this program, I would be the first US-trained orthodontist and first US-trained craniofacial orthodontist in Qatar. I hope that I can establish a cornerstone for a future comprehensive craniofacial team where professionals from all



*From the Craniofacial Fellowship Director continued*

specialties can meet and discuss patients' progress at the same time. Also, I am interested in training orthodontic residents in our future hospital-based residency program. Our institution, Hamad Medical Corporation, has three main goals: health, education, and research, and CWRU would help me fulfill all of them. I would love to collaborate efforts between CWRU and Health Care Institutions in Qatar to enhance health services in Doha."

Over the last year, we have made part of our mission going forward to organize our database and collect standardized records. This will result in a database that will yield data on our outcomes, a necessary first step towards improving outcomes in the future.

Lastly, I would like to welcome our new Craniofacial team leader at Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital (RBC) to Cleveland. Dr. Anand Kumar was recruited from Johns Hopkins and is a dynamic academic surgeon. His recruitment is also timed with an increased commitment from RBC to create an innovative multidisciplinary dento-facial clinical and imaging space. With greater shared resources, our team and our fellows are entering an exciting period of collaboration both clinically as well as academically.

"I am incredibly fortunate to join such a well-developed and supportive craniofacial orthodontic and oral maxillofacial surgery group. With Dr. Valiathan, Dr. Baur, and Dr. Quereshy, we are poised to change the way we train specialists of the craniofacial region and add high-impact research to existing body of literature."

- Anand R. Kumar MD, FACS, FAAP

*manish.valiathan@case.edu*

## ALUMNI NOTES



*Valerie Martone,  
DMD, MSD '90*

**Valerie Martone, DMD, MSD '90** has been running her own orthodontic practice for the past 25+ years. To this day, Dr. Martone still honors the philosophy of her mentor, Gary Wolf, DDS '79, who was very detailed oriented and focused on creating the best experience for patients. In addition, Dr. Martone has been actively involved with the American Association of Orthodontists. She is currently serving as the Secretary/Treasurer for the Great Lakes

Association of Orthodontists. When asked about her time at CWRU, Dr. Martone says, "I was well prepared coming out of residency. The relationships last a lifetime."

Now that her two sons are grown, Dr. Martone is excited to spend some of her free time giving back to the department. She will be teaching in the core clinic as well as helping residents succeed with practice management strategies. She is willing to help those who want to try new things. Dr. Martone embraces newer technology in her own practice, where she has a CBCT machine and intraoral scanner (no impressions or molds needed). "Teaching residents is fun; they are like sponges," she says. "I really love CWRU. Dr. Hans does a great job with the department."



*Clarence Red III,  
DDS, MSD '98*

**Clarence Red III, DDS, MSD '98** gained expertise and appreciation of growth and development at the Bolton-Brush Growth Study Center while in the orthodontics residency program. He has a passion for orthodontics and growth and development. He has focused much of his professional energy in helping others who are in need or disadvantaged. He frequently participates in dental, orthodontic and church mission trips. He has participated in mission work with

Angel House Orphanage and Secondary School in Tarime, Tanzania, and St. Jude Hospital St. Lucia, West Indies and First Presbyterian Church of Joliet.

Dr. Red and wife, Linzette, have been married for over 20 years and reside in Joliet, Illinois with their two children Summer and Morgan and their dog Izzy. They frequently volunteer in the community and are active supporters of many charitable organizations. Wanting to give back to his alma mater, Dr. Red recently joined the dental school's Alumni Association Board of Directors.

## Staff Profiles

### Tina Cooke

#### Clinic Manager



Tina Cooke

Ms. Tina Cooke is the new clinic manager for the orthodontic department. She has been in the orthodontic field for the past 23 years. Her interest in dentistry began as a freshman in high school volunteering after school for her family dentist.

After college, Tina became both a Certified Dental and

Orthodontic Assistant and began the Expanded Functional Dental Auxiliary (EFDA) program here at CWRU; however, her true passion is orthodontics. She enjoys the interaction with patients and families, especially seeing the transformations during treatment. Tina has also worked on the IT side of dentistry doing tech support, training, and consulting for practice management software.

Her key philosophy is, "do what it takes to provide services focused on complete patient satisfaction." Her goal for the department is to help with the organization, structure, and technology of the program. Tina also gives practice management seminars to the residents on topics such as marketing, reporting, staffing, and software training.

Tina is excited about her role. She says, "It is everything I've learned, all put into one position. Since I am a people person, working at CWRU is perfect. I truly appreciate the support of my exceptional boss, Dr. Marty Palomo, and the opportunity to get to know each one of our residents, and I am grateful to be around the diversity of the university."

Outside of dentistry, Tina has a passion for rescue dogs. She volunteered for over 15 years at a local rescue group before starting up her own non-profit dog rescue. She has been a foster parent for over 50 dogs in her home. She adds: "I owe my strength and determination to my mom, who is also my best friend."

### Deb Tomsick

#### Craniofacial Clinic Coordinator



Deb Tomsick

Mrs. Deb Tomsick is the coordinator for the craniofacial clinic in the orthodontic department. She works closely with Dr. Manish Valiathan and the craniofacial fellows to coordinate schedules with patients and other specialists. Deb explains, "The fellows work closely with several of the local

hospitals including University Hospitals, Cleveland Clinic, MetroHealth System, and Akron Children's Hospitals. The fellows are credentialed at University Hospitals and MetroHealth System."

"The work is very rewarding. Parents and patients are looking for answers to their child's orthodontic and craniofacial needs, and our team is able to offer solutions that have a huge impact on their lives."

Deb is originally from England and came to the United States as a teenager. After graduating from high school, she found her interest in dentistry and became a dental hygienist, moving into the office management position several years ago. Deb accepted the position to work with Dr. Valiathan about a year ago; it has been a wonderful experience for everyone involved.

Deb plans to continue learning more about orthodontics and expand her responsibilities. Outside of work, Deb enjoys spending time with her husband, their two grown daughters and two Labrador retrievers.



SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE  
CASE WESTERN RESERVE  
UNIVERSITY

Department of Orthodontics  
10900 Euclid Avenue  
Cleveland, Ohio 44106-4905

## Alumni and Friends Reception during the American Association of Orthodontists Annual Session

April 22, 2017

Marriott Marquis San Diego Marina  
333 W Harbor Drive  
San Diego, CA  
8:00pm – 9:30pm

To register, contact the Office of  
Development & Alumni Relations  
at 216.368.5758 or email  
[dentalumni@case.edu](mailto:dentalumni@case.edu)



In October 2017, the School of Dental Medicine will celebrate its 125th anniversary. We are interested in hearing from you about how your lives have been impacted by the school over the years. We are looking for stories, anecdotes, letters, archival photos and artifacts that highlight your personal connection to the school.

*You can share your story by emailing us at [Celebrate125SODM@case.edu](mailto:Celebrate125SODM@case.edu) or by calling 216-368-5758*