

## The Graduating Class



**Naheed Mohamed** has been studying an autologous material called platelet-rich fibrin, which is harvested and produced from a patient's blood, and the effects this biomaterial has on soft tissue wound healing. Dr. Mohamed says his studies at CWRU have given him a strong foundation in clinical experience and new surgical techniques. "I have also learned how to research potential advances in clinical science and apply them to my practice, and have gained an insight into teaching, research and surgery," he says. His goals are to own a specialty practice and advance clinical periodontology through research in new clinical procedures.



**Cecilia Perera** studied the effects of statins (medicines to reduce cholesterol) in nonsurgical periodontal therapy. "The things I will take with me from CWRU will be the great experience that I had for the past three years, the knowledge I received in periodontology, and the teaching experience, which made me grow not only as a professional but also personally," she says. Dr. Perera's goals include having her own private practice, and sharing with other students the things she learned about periodontics at CWRU. She would also like to resume classes in flamenco dancing, which she took in Venezuela for five years. Dr. Perera says she is looking for a job as a periodontist.



**Luis Pires** conducted research titled, "Evaluation of Bone Morphology and Heat Generated After Repeated Use of Two Types of Burs." The objective was to evaluate in vitro the durability of stainless steel and zirconia burs in relation to osteotomy and their effects on bone. Dr. Pires says his education at CWRU enabled him to improve his surgical skills and to develop the interest in periodontal research. He would like to have an academic career together with a private practice. A rock and roll fan, Dr. Pires loves the Beatles and says, "I'm always playing my guitar."

## Meet The Class Of 2012



**Nawwaf Al-Hamoudi** was born in East Lansing, MI, then moved with his parents to Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, and finished dental school at King Saud University. He chose the CWRU School of Dental Medicine for his post-graduate work because, "The reputation of the school is great, the periodontics program is one of the most prestigious in the nation, the staff's accomplishments are outstanding, and the residency program is very inviting and stimulating," he says. Dr. Al-Hamoudi's main areas of interest are clinical periodontics, and studying oral health in relation to different systemic diseases. It sounds as though he is not going to be fond of Cleveland's winters, however: he loves camping in the desert, and says he wishes CWRU was in Florida.



**Martin Leybovich** grew up in Brooklyn, NY, and graduated in May 2010 from the University of Maryland dental school. "I chose to attend the CWRU periodontics program primarily for two reasons: to learn from Dr. Bissada and to be able to perform all the diverse surgical procedures the program has to offer," Dr. Leybovich says. His goal is to become a comprehensive periodontist and learn how periodontics is related to other specialties and sub-specialties of dentistry.



**Cynthia Trajtenberg** received her D.D.S. from the University of Buenos Aires, Argentina, in 1993. She obtained her M.S. degree in oral biomaterials science from the University of Texas Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and MD Anderson Cancer Center in 2001. Since 2001, she has held a position as assistant professor in the Department of Restorative Dentistry and Biomaterials at the University of Texas Dental Branch at Houston, where she taught restorative dentistry, while maintaining a part-time intramural practice. "I have been involved in salivary proteomics and cancer, and received two funding grants from MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston," Dr. Trajtenberg says. "I'm interested in proteomics of biofluids and their potential for early disease detection."



**Sima Zitouni** earned her D.D.S. degree from Aleppo University School of Dentistry, Aleppo, Syria. She then worked as a private dentist in Syria before moving to the United States. In 2009, Dr. Zitouni completed a six-month advanced education in general dentistry fellowship at the CWRU School of Dental Medicine, followed by another six-month periodontics fellowship under the supervision of Dr. Bissada. The periodontics fellowship inspired a passion to enter the periodontics residency program. "I chose CWRU for my residency training because of its excellent reputation and teaching quality," she says.

## PUBLICATIONS

Joshi, N., Bissada, N.F., Bodner, D., MacLennan, G.T., Narendran, S., Jurevic, R., Skillicorn, R. Association Between Periodontal Disease and Prostate Specific Antigen Levels in Chronic Prostatitis Patients. *J. Periodontol.* 81:864-69, 2010.

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## Join Us!

You are invited as Dr. Nabil Bissada's guest at a celebration dinner to honor his achievement as the

2010 Outstanding Periodontal Educator

during the American Academy of Periodontology Annual Meeting at the Hilton Hawaiian Village

November 1, 2010  
5:30 p.m.

## SEND US YOUR News

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