

Endodontics News



Jefferson J. Jones, D.M.D.

Letter from the Chairman

Greetings from the Department of Endodontics of the School of Dental Medicine. This has been an exciting and productive year. Our department is operating now on all cylinders. We are succeeding in every aspect of our endeavor. We have integrated teaching, research, and clinical achievement thoroughly in our program.

In 2004, our second-year residents successfully finished their program and won an unprecedented number of awards relating to our research presentations.

All our residents and our endodontic faculty will be in Dallas for the 2005 AAE annual meeting. See the adjacent article for information about this year's research presentations. We are looking forward to seeing all our old and new friends at the alumni reception and hearing about their whereabouts and accomplishments.

We are proud of the fact that our graduating endodontic residents are in great demand and are taking positions as faculty members.

The Endodontic Department wishes to thank Dr. Joong H. Hahn '92 and Dr. Hui-Jin Lee for the beneficent gift to the Endodontic Department of \$10,000. We will permanently mount a plaque displaying our gratitude for the generous support of our Endodontic Department.

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BE THERE!

American Association of Endodontics
Annual Meeting

Case Department of Endodontics Alumni
Reception

Thursday, April 7, 2005

5:30-7:30 pm

Wyndam Anatole
Dallas, Texas

RSVP by March 28

T: 216 368 3480

877 468 1436

E-mail: dentalalumni@case.edu

ANOTHER MILESTONE IN OUR RESEARCH INITIATIVE

Research in our department has been rolling full steam ahead. All of our residents are gearing up to present at the AAE meeting this spring. The addition to our research initiative has been from the sophomore dental class. As part of the summer undergraduate research opportunity provided by the School of Dental Medicine, we have recruited four motivated second year students for some interesting projects. Justin Liddle and Nicole Dahlkemper have looked at the cleaning ability of rotary instruments. Justin is reporting his results on the relation of apical size preparation to disinfection of infected canals, while Nicole is analyzing the canal shape and debris in prepared canals of varying apical diameter. Robert Bingham and John Bogle have been conducting their research on the pulp chamber anatomy of molars and its relation to the occlusal surface. A number of other motivated students have come forth to help in the above projects including Kirk Huffaker, Benjamin Neibaur, MacKinley Self, Kyle Crawchaw, and Ayman Fayyad. All four of our student researchers have been accepted to present poster research at the 2005 IADR session in Baltimore this March. Working with such motivated and diligent students has been a rewarding experience for me.



Dr. Sami Chogle
Assistant Professor
Undergraduate Endodontic
Clinic Director.

Last year our department had two students presenting at the IADR session and one of the presentations, a project comparing medicated and regular gutta-percha, has already been accepted for publication in the *Journal of Endodontics*. Our department hopes to continue this joint research avenue as well as explore bigger and better projects.

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RESIDENTS' PRESENTATIONS AT THE UPCOMING ANNUAL MEETING.

Colic A, Mickel AK, Chogle S, Jones JJ. An Evidence-Based PICO Strategy Review of Presence of *Enterococcus faecalis* in the Oral Microflora. "A comprehensive literature review strategy of a prominent organism in endodontics."

Morsani J, Mickel AK, Chogle S, Jones JJ. *E. faecalis* Penetration through Canals Containing a Separated Instrument and Backfilled with MTA or Geristore. "A study to determine if complete backfilling with MTA or Geristore coronal to a separated file would prevent bacterial penetration when compared to canals obturated with gutta percha and sealer."

Wright A, Mickel AK, Chogle S, Jones JJ. A Gel-Like Hemostatic Agent for Use in Endodontic Surgery. "A study to observe the behavior of ActCel™ during endodontic surgical procedures requiring hemostasis."

Lindquist K, Mickel AK, Chogle S, Jones JJ. Assessing the Timing of Nickel Titanium Rotary File Separation and Its Affect on Bacterial Penetration. "Does timing of NiTi rotary file separation affect bacterial penetration?"

Patel J, Mickel AK, Chogle S, Jones JJ. What Effect Does GTR/Bone Grafting Material Have on Residual Bacterial in the Endodontic Surgical Crypt?

Prize Winners at the 2004 Annual Meeting included four of our residents who each won \$1,000 for their oral and table presentations. Taking home honors were Dr. Michael Mindiola '04 first place, Dr. Kumar Subramanian '04, third place, Dr. Jitan Patel '05, seventh place, and Dr. Igor Kantorovich '04, ninth place.

"I am very proud that our winning tradition continues and of how hard the residents work and strive to continue this tradition."



Andre K. Mickel, D.D.S., M.S.D.
Director and Assistant Professor
Endodontics



CASE

SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE

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RESIDENTS FOCUS ON RESEARCH PROJECTS

Class of 2005

Kimberly A. D. Lindquist says, "My research project looks at microbial leakage through the obturated root canal with a separated file remaining within the canal; asking the question, does it leak less than conventionally obturated root canals?" The St. Paul MN native serves as chief resident this year. She says she chose Case for the opportunity to work on projects like this. "Case has a quality, exceptional, diverse graduate endodontics program that fully prepares residents for a rewarding career—clinically and academically," she says.

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Allen Colic hails from Vauxhall, Alberta, Canada. "My research involves a comprehensive overview of all scientific literature that focuses on a prominent microorganism in endodontics, *E. faecalis*. I am



looking at what the literature can tell us about the presence of this organism in the oral cavity using innovative microbial detection methods," he says.

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Shahin Etemadi was born in Iran and did undergraduate studies at the University of Utah. "I chose this graduate program because Dr. Mickel sets the bar high and expects you to meet that. This program pushes you to reach high levels of excellence. My research is about the effects of calcium hydroxide on *E. faecalis* through a specific method of placement."

London native **Jitan Patel** says, "I choose to attend Case because of the solid academic foundation

in graduate dental studies and the extensive opportunity to perform all phases of endodontic treatment using the most current technology in endodontics. Mentorship under Dr. Andre Mickel will ensure my competence in all aspects of endodontics upon completion of training." Dr. Patel continues, "My research project: the use of grafting and barrier techniques has been implicated in aiding the achievement of a more predictable level of post-surgical healing. Therefore, a thorough understanding of the effects of the graft and barrier material on the residual bacteria in the surgical crypt is critical. My *in vitro* study will evaluate whether a commonly used graft and barrier material with and without doxycycline would have an inhibitory, neutral, or stimulatory effect on *E. faecalis*."

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MEET THE CLASS OF 2006

A native of Brazil, **Jussara Morsani** graduated from dental school and endodontics specialty training there. "I came to the US in 1992 and attended the University of Detroit Mercy School of Dentistry for the advanced standing program for international students. I chose Case because I had no doubt that I would get the education I was looking for," she says.

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John Odai, born in Ghana and now an American citizen, is a graduate of the University of Alberta and University of Manitoba's dental school. "After graduation in 1995, I maintained a general practice in Ottawa, Canada for eight years before entering the program at Case. A motivating factor for me in choosing this endodontic program was that it is one of the premier programs in the country and I have the opportunity to learn from, and be a student of,

two remarkable endodontists: Dr. J. Jones and Dr. A. Mickel. My interests aside from dentistry include playing a variety of sports, reading, and spending time with my family," he says.

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"It is exciting to be a part of the endodontic program at Case! The program provides strong academics and excellent patient care," says **Andrew Wright** of Downers Grove, IL. He is a graduate of the University of Michigan School of Dentistry. "I'm grateful for the individuals who help to make this a strong program. Besides endodontics, I have a passion for helping out with international dental medical missions organizations, being involved in my church, outdoor sports activities, and playing musical instruments."

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STARTING OUT

2004

"I have a private practice in Peachtree City, GA, located 20 miles south of downtown Atlanta," **George Brown** tells us. "I am extremely pleased with my Case education. It equipped me with a solid foundation of clinical skills which I use daily. The practice management tips allowed me to make a smooth transition from residency to the private sector. In speaking to colleagues who trained elsewhere, I have come to realize the true value of the time I spent at Case."



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Igor Kantorovich has joined a practice in Cleveland, OH. "I feel very confident. The clinical education was very good as far as patient management," he says. He and wife Elena Furman, an instructor at Case School of Dental Medicine, spend their off hours with their sons.

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Faculty member in the Department of Endodontics in the College of Dentistry at the University of Kentucky, and adjunct faculty member at The Ohio State University, **Kumar Subramanian** says, "My responsibilities include teaching, research and practice. To say that my Case training has put me in an enviable position is an understatement! My clinical training has made me the most sought-after endodontist among the referring dentists here. I continue my research in basic microbiology, using state of the art molecular techniques."

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CLASS NOTES

1992



Joong Hee Hahn of Broadview Heights, OH, tells us about his professional association with other Case dental school

alumni. "I am in practice with my wife, Dr. Hui-Jin Lee (Periodontist), Dr. Vinson Vig (Endodontist), and Dr. Vig's wife, Dr. Ashoo Khanuja (Maxillofacial Surgery)." Dr. Hahn was born in South Korea and moved to Nigeria as a child. He studied at Case as an undergrad and at the Case School of Dental Medicine, prior to his endodontics

training. "I attribute my success to God and the people who have influenced my life: my wife, dad, and mom (Dr. & Mrs. Sang Ki Hahn), Dr. Jefferson J. Jones, and Dr. James A. Wallace," he says.

1994

"I have been married for ten years to Dr. Timothy Jay O'Keefe, also an alumnus of Case," **Margaret Pallone O'Keefe** reminds us. "We have five children and have finished building our dream house in Youngstown, NY. I work part time in private practice and am on staff at Erie County Medical Center in Buffalo. I keep quite busy!"