

Endodontics News

LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN



André Mickel, D.D.S., M.S.D. '94

ENDODONTICS PROGRAM LOOKS TO CONTINUE WINNING TRADITION

It's often said that it's more difficult to stay on top than it is to get to the top. That's why repeat champions are noteworthy, and dynasties are remarkable. In my role as Interim Chairman of the Endodontic Department at the School of Dental Medicine, I am fortunate to inherit a dynasty.

This past fall at the Ohio Dental Association meeting, our endodontic residents won first, second, and third place in the table clinic presentations — a feat that we've accomplished every year for the past 10 years. We will seek to carry on that unprecedented winning tradition again this year in August.

Also, in April we'll be attending the American Association of Endodontists meeting, the largest endodontic meeting in the world. This year it's being held in Orlando, FL. The only thing bigger than Disney in Orlando is our students' accomplishments: we are consistently represented in the top 10 poster research presentations, and all eight of our residents will be making scientific presentations again this year.

Simply put, in the last eight years our endodontic program has won as many or more awards than any other endodontic program in the world. We're at the top and we plan to stay there.

We have some comings and going to report. We're very happy to welcome back **Anita Aminoshariae, D.D.S., M.S. '99**. She is a board-certified endodontist and now we have the good fortune of bringing her into our faculty. (See the interview with Dr. Aminoshariae in this issue of *Endodontics News*.) And while we are saddened to see Assistant Professor **Sami Chogle, D.D.S., M.S.D. '00** depart, we know he is thrilled to be taking over a new endodontic program in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. We thank him and wish him all the best.

Finally, our thoughts and prayers are with our chairman, **Dr. Jefferson Jones** as he recovers from surgery. Any cards or wishes people would like to send to Dr. Jones would be well received. Send them to the endodontic department and we'll make sure he gets them.

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CLASS OF '99 GRADUATE ANITA AMINOSHARIAE RETURNS TO JOIN THE ENDODONTICS FACULTY

Anita Aminoshariae, D.D.S., M.S., has set some reasonable goals as the newest faculty member in the Endodontics Department at the School of Dental Medicine at Case Western Reserve University.

Dr. Aminoshariae received her Doctor of Dental Surgery degree in 1999 from CWRU School of Dental Medicine. She simply wishes that all members of the incoming class make the faculty proud by becoming highly competent dentists. "I'd like to impart to the predoctoral students how important it is to be good clinicians and how important it is to know when to refer," she says. "And I'd like to impress upon all the students and residents that they should always be pursuing higher learning, and keeping up-to-date in their education and techniques, so they can always do what's in the best interest of their patients."

A board-certified endodontist, Dr. Aminoshariae is well-positioned to help the school's students achieve their goals. After graduating from the School of Dental Medicine, she became a civilian contract worker for the U.S. Navy for two years. She then applied and was accepted at the Medical College of Virginia (now Virginia Commonwealth University). She graduated with her degree in endodontics in 2003. In 2005, she became one of only about 20% of the endodontists in the U.S. who are board-certified.

Dr. Aminoshariae was born in Tehran, Iran. Her father, a gastroenterologist, completed his residency and fellowship at University Hospitals of Cleveland from 1963-1967. He was a professor and chair of Internal Medicine, National University of Iran, Tehran until July 1988, when he brought his family back to Cleveland and joined a gastroenterology practice here. Dr. Aminoshariae grew up in Cleveland and graduated from Orange High School before attending the CWRU dental school on a six-year preprofessional dental program.

After earning her endodontics degree, Dr. Aminoshariae worked for two years in Minnesota as a full-time practitioner, and taught one day each week at University of Minnesota. While she enjoyed her time there, she is thrilled to be returning to Cleveland.

"It's nice because I have family here and because I think CWRU has a unique opportunity right now, with Dr. Sami Chogle leaving to start a new clinic in Dubai. I know Dr. Chogle leaves large shoes to fill, but it's a great chance for me to share the knowledge and experience I have gained in the Navy and in Minnesota," she says. "And it has been great to be back. Everyone has been very friendly and supportive. It's just how I remembered it."

While devoted to helping all of the dental school's students and residents be the best dentists they can be, Dr. Aminoshariae admits that her background gives her a little bit of a soft spot for endodontics.

"I'd like for endodontics to be the best department, of course," she says. "I'd like all of the students to feel that endodontics is so exciting that they would like to learn more and take courses to pursue it. Realistically I know that's not possible, but I do hope to plant a seed of interest."

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CLASS NOTES

Kimberly Lindquist, D.D.S., M.S.D. '05, became a Fellow of the American College of Dentists in October 2008. She is currently president of the Minnesota Association of Endodontists and a committee member of the AAE's Resident and New Practitioner Committee. Kim and her husband, John, have been married for 20 years and have four children — Lukas (16), Madison (14), Kathryn (13) and Max (7).

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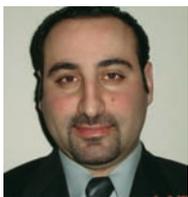
Ronald C. Taylor, D.D.S., M.S.D. '99, purchased a 3,000 sq. ft. office condo in downtown Silver Spring, MD and moved his existing practice into the new space in November 2008. He is now a diplomate of the American Board of Endodontics. He enjoys spending time with his wife, Chalisa, and children Kayla (8) and Evan (4).

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Endodontics News

SPRING 2009

SECOND YEAR RESIDENTS AND THEIR RESEARCH PROJECTS



Oday Alhalasa is conducting research to compare the accuracy of three different radiographic imaging systems (cone beam computed tomography, direct digital radiography, and conventional e-speed radiography) in detecting bone pathology. After graduation, Alhalasa plans to return to San Diego, CA and be involved in private practice in addition to part-time teaching. He says his studies in the graduate endodontics program at the School of Dental Medicine have provided him with training and knowledge that will be geared toward providing the ultimate care for his patients.

Kristina Hopkins is conducting research that focuses on genetic polymorphisms. The title is "The Role of IL-1 & TNF- α ; IL-6 and



IL-10 Polymorphisms in Post-treatment Apical Periodontitis." Through this research, she compares patients who have undergone successful surgical root canal therapy with those who have had unsuccessful root canals to see if there is an association between the presence of polymorphisms and refractory apical periodontitis following surgical root canal therapy. After graduation, Hopkins plans to return to Birmingham, AL to practice.

Mahmoud Modareszadeh is working on the biocompatibility of a new nanocomposite root end filling material on a permanent cell line (mouse fibroblast L929), and comparing that to the biocompatibility of two commonly used root end filling materials named Geristore and MTA. "The main thing that I am taking from my studies at CWRU is working hard to achieve my goals, which are practicing as a specialized clinician in endodontics and maybe working as part-time faculty at a dental school," he says.



Sumesh Potluri is conducting a research project on a novel endodontic retrofill material called NERP (nanocomposite enhanced retrofill polymer). His project is titled, "An In vitro Assessment of Antibacterial and Drug Elution Characteristics of NERP." Potluri says his destiny is to become a board-certified endodontist (Diplomate) and stay committed to cater excellent clinical care and patient management. "CWRU is one of the most prestigious institutions. It provided me with conceptual knowledge of endodontic literature and patient management skills and taught me the latest technological advances and treatment modalities," he says. Someday, Potluri adds, he would like to explore the new Seven Wonders of the World.

MEET THE INCOMING CLASS



Daniel Morris grew up in Saratoga Springs, NY, and will be graduating from the CWRU School of Dental Medicine in May 2009.

"I chose CWRU because it is an extremely well-rounded program, with strong clinical and academic components," he says. A basketball player, golfer, and hiker, Morris is interested in continuing to investigate the properties of the novel nanocomposite-based endodontic retrofill material developed at CWRU by Dr. Sami Chogle.

Poonam Solanki is a graduate of Dr. D.Y. Patil Dental College and Hospital, Pune, India.

After her graduation she was in private practice for a year. In 2007, she moved to Cleveland with her husband, Kumar, who is a physician at the Cleveland Clinic. "I find endodontics a very exciting and challenging field," Solanki says. "I had the opportunity to do an observership in the Department of Endodontics at the CWRU School of Dental Medicine. The course appears intense and thorough, yet rewarding, and the subject is taught in a relaxed and supportive environment. I was very impressed by the academic and clinical



teaching done by the faculty. The residents were happy and satisfied with the quality of training at CWRU. This helped me further my decision to join this program."

Marcus Johnson is originally from Denver, CO. He attended Rutgers University on an athletic/academic scholarship as part of the men's track team, then studied dentistry at NYU College of Dentistry and is currently doing a residency program in the Bronx, NY. He became interested in endodontics during his second year in dental school. Johnson chose the CWRU School of Dental Medicine not only because of its fine reputation, but also because a resident told him, "In other programs you will be a good endodontist in spite of the training; at CWRU you will become a great endodontist because of the training." He adds, "I would be remiss if I didn't mention the professional bond that was illustrated between Dr. Mickel and the residents during my visit. I felt that striving for excellence was the norm and not the exception."



Maria do Carmo Ciasca is a graduate of the University of São Paulo, Brazil; she also participated in internships at the Endodontic

Department of the same university. She says her interests in endodontics started early during her undergraduate studies.

"I'm sure this program will prepare me to be an excellent professional in this specialty. I expect hard work, but also an incredible opportunity to develop my knowledge and my professional skills." Ciasca's fiance, Dr. Luis Pires, is a second-year periodontics resident at the CWRU School of Dental Medicine.



BE THERE!

Reception during the
 American Association of
 Endodontists Annual Session
 Thursday, April 30, 2009

6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
 Gaylord Palms Resort and
 Convention Center
 Orlando FL

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