

LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN



Every season is a busy season

Just because it's summer doesn't mean that your endodontics department faculty, residents, and staff are taking it easy! We are welcoming four new residents this July. All are accomplished young professionals who chose CWRU because the program is worthy of

their talents. The program continues to attract the best and the brightest because we have the finest facilities and faculty—both are world-class.

That quality continues here because of the hard work and dedication of our faculty and staff, and because of the generosity of our alumni. When the alumni continue to contribute their time, resources, and money to a school or a program such as ours, not only do they keep a tradition alive, they help to maintain the value of their own degrees. Our reputation as a school and a department is only as good as the skills and quality of the last class that we have graduated. And the classes we graduate continue to be world-class, going on to leadership roles in our profession.

The example you set for these young colleagues, as well as your continued financial support, is invaluable. And for that, we thank you. You have no doubt heard about the various appeals for the campaign for CWRU and for the School of Dental Medicine. Your contributions to those campaigns allow the school, and by extension, our department, to continue offering a cutting-edge educational experience to the residents we teach.

Please consider making a gift to support the department today! We rely on support from former residents to support the program. If you would like to know more about our immediate needs, please contact **Simon Bisson, Assistant Dean for Development and Alumni Relations** at 216-368-3923.

As always, I look forward to hearing from you. Please don't hesitate to contact me with any thoughts and news.

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SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE
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Endodontics News

SUMMER 2012

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

A rising leader in dental education, Dr. Chand believes that CWRU prepared her for 'any opportunity'—both clinical and academic



Dr. Priya Sharma-Chand

Priya Sharma-Chand, B.D.S., M.S.D., '02, took her education to a new level after she graduated from the endodontics program at CWRU. Dr. Chand is assistant professor and director of predoctoral endodontics, department of endodontics, prosthodontics and operative dentistry at the University of Maryland, Baltimore. "I came to the endodontics program at CWRU because I had heard that you would be well-prepared for any opportunity, both in academia and as a clinician," she says.

Dr. Chand, who is also a diplomate of the American Board of Endodontics and joined as one of the directors for the College of Diplomates in 2011, says that she continues to use what she learned at CWRU about evidence-based endodontics and how it impacts daily clinical decision-making in her current work and teaching. In that vein, she explains that her teaching philosophy is "a reflection of education and experience. For me, teaching is a thought-out project. People learn differently, and you want to create a flow that reaches one and all. At the same time, you want to be up-to-date in your methods and content."

The best part about working with students, she says, is the "constant challenge, change, and growth as a clinician. I find that I must evolve my teaching style with

each new generation. We also must continue to adapt to new technology. I also am gratified when I see a student come into our program and find a passion to pursue endodontics as a specialty."

Dr. Chand has taught for almost 10 years. "My motivation to teach is my desire to impact even one student's career decision to pursue endodontics," she says. "For me, the great thing about a university setting is the multidisciplinary knowledge I gain each year. I have the privilege of working with a team of specialists to make scientifically based clinical decisions especially in challenging cases."

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Endodontics News

SUMMER 2012

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

Faculty members recognized by peers, published in journals



Dr. Anita Aminoshariae

Anita Aminoshariae, D.D.S., '99, M.S., assistant professor, and director of predoctoral endodontics, was recently named as district director for the American Association of Endodontics (district IV). She has also been appointed as a representative for the endodontic section of the American Dental

Education Association. In outlining her motivation to serve in these capacities, she explains, "I have heard from many dental organization members who have had concerns that organized dental groups don't 'represent' them. They may also feel that an organization 'doesn't do anything for me,' or 'all they do is take my money.'

"If we don't work together within organized dentistry, we will have no collective voice or power to make the changes our patients need and want," says Dr. Aminoshariae. "So while you may get upset that a television advertisement incorrectly sends information to patients that dental x-rays cause cancer, or that others may try to voice their opinions on how an endodontist should run his or her practice. However, if we don't join our professional organizations, then we may as well take our gloves off and let others dictate the future of our profession – and our own individual practices.

Dr. Aminoshariae is a member of the ADA, AAE, the Ohio Dental Association (ODA), Ohio Association of Endodontists, the Greater Cleveland Dental Society (GCDS), and the Cochrane Oral Health Group. She has also served as ambassador, AAE Foundation (2009-2010). She has served as Editor, GCDS *Bulletin* (2009-2012); Secretary/Treasurer, GCDS (2012-2013); Alternate Delegate, ODA; Director, District IV, AAE; member, National Board Endodontics Test Construction Committee for Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations; Chair, ADEA Endodontic Section; member, Scientific Advisory Board, *Journal of Endodontics* and the *Journal of the American Dental Association*.

The March 2012 issue of the *Journal of Dental Education* contains a paper by **Thomas A. Montagnese, D.D.S., M.S.**, assistant professor in the department of endodontics. The paper is entitled, "Why intravenous moderate sedation should be taught in graduate endodontic programs."



Thomas A. Montagnese, D.D.S., M.S.

continued inside



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AAE 2012 Poster Presentations by CWRU Endodontic Residents

Incidence of ailing, failing and failed implants in a university setting: A five-year retrospective study *O. Jeremy Wilde, D.M.D.*

The project involved the survival and failure rates for dental implants placed in a University, and described the systemic conditions, and demographics associated with implant failure.

Extraction of salvageable teeth without endodontic consultation: An alarming trend *Mark W. Galsterer, D.M.D.*

Mark's research project examined teeth extracted within the school to understand endodontics' role in the treatment planning process. Electronic dental school records were examined for the previous five-year period. Excluding 3rd molars and teeth removed for orthodontic reasons, the following information was recorded for each patient: tooth number extracted, presence of endodontic consultation prior to extraction, and type of tooth replacement. Data were collected and statistically analyzed. Results showed that significantly more teeth were extracted without prior endodontic consultation versus having an endodontic consultation.

Endodontist's recognition of the influence of demographics and its effect on patient selection of endodontic therapy versus implant placement *Ryan L. Reese, D.M.D.*

This project examined the role of patient demographics on their decision to select endodontic therapy, or implant therapy. Overall, a patient's decision to select endodontics or implants was affected by their demographics.

Faculty members recognized... *continued*

Dr. Montagnese also was a featured speaker at the 2012 Annual meeting for the American Society of Endodontists in Boston, MA. His topic was "How to incorporate intravenous moderate sedation into your endodontic practice." The session was designed to present a nuts-and-bolts approach to incorporating intravenous moderate sedation in endodontic practice. Dr. Montagnese discussed the advantages for providing this service and reviewed state dental board requirements, training, equipment and supplies. He also described how this service is managed in his private practice and in the

Influencing factors in endodontic and implant litigation: A descriptive study *Thomas R. Bigelow, D.M.D.*

This project utilizes the Westlaw Database to analyze lawsuits regarding dental implants and endodontics. This information was used to determine if dentists are at greater legal risk by placing dental impants, versus performing root canal therapy.

Search engine optimization for dental implants and root canal therapy: A comparative study *Samer A. Safadi, D.D.S., M.S.*

Recent studies indicate that online presence (OP) and search engine optimization (SEO) are influential, yet not necessarily credible factors in patient treatment choice toward implants over root canals (RCTs). Unfortunately, this may be due to a disproportionatly exponential growth in implants over RCT marketing. The purpose of our study was to compare the OP and SEO of implants to RCT. There was significantly greater OP and better SEO for implants over RCT. Patients frequently rely on these factors in making an informed treatment choice. We believe that regulation is necessary to provide accurate information to patients regarding their tooth preservation options versus replacement with implants.

A five-year retrospective analysis of dental school implant placement: Location, type and departmental preference *Brandon J. Webb, D.D.S.*

With the continual surge of dental implant placement in undergraduate and graduate programs, patients are readily seeking implants. The advances in implantology have led to implant placement by most dental departments at the school of dental medicine.

graduate endodontic clinic at Case Western Reserve University's School of Dental Medicine. The session offered continuing education credits, and had these objectives, whereby participants would:

- Compile a list of supplies, monitors and drugs necessary to provide intravenous moderate sedation.
- Determine how to schedule and implement moderate sedation cases in the office.
- Locate state dental board requirements for providing intravenous moderate sedation.

Residents *Welcome to our new Endodontic residents who started on July 1*



Mohammed Othman Bakkar, B.D.S., A.G.D., is from Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. He is a 2007 graduate of the College of Dentistry at King Saud University. He has also completed a 2-year AGD program at Prince Abdulrahman Advanced Dental Institute (PAADI), Riyadh. He completed the latter program in 2009. Following residency he joined the King Fahad Armed Forces Hospital, Jeddah where he practices general dentistry. "I always wanted to become an endodontist at a postgraduate program that focuses on clinical excellence and a solid research-based education," says Mohammed. He adds that "joining the Endodontic Program at CWRU was a dream come true." Mohammed plans to practice and to teach endodontics in a university setting after the program. He is "happily married to my lovely wife, Abeer Feteih." In his free time, Mohammed enjoys playing soccer and hanging out with his family and friends.



Yoo Kyeom "Robert" Huh, D.M.D., '12, will continue his studies here at CWRU. He is originally from Seoul, South Korea, "but I have spent the past 12 to 13 years here at CWRU, so I guess you could say I'm from 'Cleveland,'" he says. As to why he wants to receive his endodontics post-grad training at his alma mater, Robert explains, "There are so many reasons to come here, I can't name just a few." After graduation from the program, he plans on joining his cousins in Connecticut, where they will open an endodontics group specialty practice. Robert comes from a family of clinicians; his father is a neurosurgeon, and his mother is a pediatrician. Both practice in Korea. He also tells us that his brother is in the military in Korea. In his spare time, Robert enjoys reading about wine and spending time with his friends. "I'm so excited to spend the next two years here learning my specialty, and I can't wait to meet my classmates," he says.



Sara Kwang, D.D.S., is from Houston, Texas. She is a 2010 graduate of the University of Detroit Mercy School of Dentistry. After graduation from dental school, she completed a general practice residency at New York Harlem Hospital, which is affiliated with Columbia University's College of Physicians and Surgeons. Her goal in pursuing the endodontic program here is to "work within the field of endodontics as a practitioner." As to why she chose to come to CWRU, Sara says, "CWRU has a prestigious and advanced endodontics training program. The atmosphere is professionally challenging yet motivational. The faculty here encourage all residents to become accomplished and knowledgeable endodontists." Sara also tells us that she is a first-generation American, as her family is from Cameroon in West Africa.



Pranali Rajendra Patil, B.D.S., is from Mumbai, India. She says "I come from a family of dentists and physicians!" She attended dental school at the Dr. G. D. Pol Foundation's Y.M.T. Dental College in Mumbai. Pranali's professional goal is "to balance endodontic practice and faculty teaching." She adds, "I applied to CWRU for two reasons: one, CWRU is a respected institution with a reputation for a quality education. And two, the endodontic program here was well-spoken of at the 2011 AAE Annual Conference. I consider it to be a divine 'ordinance' to be chosen to be part of it."

CLASS NOTES

1993



Lowell Graves is living in Colorado and enjoys both alpine and cross-country skiing. When not working, you can find him hiking, fishing, shooting photographs or traveling.

1999

Armen Hartoonian enjoys reading, sports, and classical music. He and his wife, Adrine, celebrate 27 years of marriage this year. They have a son who is currently a student at the University of Southern California.

2004

Kumar Subramanian is currently a Clinical Assistant Professor at the Nationwide Children's Hospital and The Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio. He attends and oversees the trauma clinics at the Nationwide Children's Hospital. He enjoys white-water rafting, travelling and working in the yard over the spring and summer. He is also an avid football and basketball fan. He and his wife, Purnima Kumar, who is a periodontist, have twin daughters.

