

# Orthodontic News

## MANISH VALIATHAN, M.D.S., D.D.S., M.S.D. IS THE ORTHODONTICS DEPARTMENT'S "TRIPLE THREAT"



Mark Hans, D.D.S., M.S.D. '79, '81

### A NOTE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

2008 promises to be an Olympic year for the Department of Orthodontics. Although we mourned the passing of two long-time members of our orthodontic family, this past year was also exciting and rewarding. **Dr. J. Martin Palomo '97** was promoted to Associate Professor with tenure. The award of tenure is a million-dollar decision for a university and I am proud that Marty has achieved this academic milestone. Monica Fisher has designed a program that allows our residents to complete their master's research in the second year. This allows residents to focus on their future after training during the final six months. **Manish Valiathan '99** continues his groundbreaking research on retention practices and protocols and will present his results at the AAO Annual Meeting.

We continue to develop an international presence in Asia. The department has an agreement with Peking University to conduct two joint continuing education courses every year. The spring course is held in Beijing and this year features **John White '82**. The fall course is held in Cleveland in September under the direction of Chi-Min "Jimmy" Teng. **Art Phelps '48**, heads a list of premier teachers that also includes Ashima Valiathan, from Manipal India, Roland Fegali from Lebanon, and Lysle Johnston from the "U.P." In addition, CWRU has signed an MOU with Jiong Tong University in Shanghai. **Rick Griffith '78, '80**, will be Director of Patient Services for AMERICHIN™, an American Style orthodontic clinic that opened April 18. **Dennis Beeson '71, '73**, led a CWRU contingent for the ribbon-cutting ceremony.

Both faculty and residents continue to benefit from the generous support of our alumni. 2008 will be the final year in the "Campaign for Orthodontics." This year alumni contributions allowed residents to attend the Moyer's Symposium and the AAO meeting in Denver, CO. These funds also allowed us to purchase a digital sensor for intraoral radiography to complement the 3D cone-beam images. New carpet, furniture, high-end computer imaging systems and a plasma display were also acquired using alumni funds. Last year the faculty had over 20 articles published in peer-reviewed journals and received more than \$100,000 in research funding from external sources.

Thank you for your gold medal support of CWRU Ortho.

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Manish Valiathan loves sports.

So forgive Dr. Valiathan an assistant professor in the Department of Orthodontics at Case Western Reserve University School of Dental Medicine, if he uses an athletic analogy to describe what he likes about working at one of the world's elite institutions.

"It's an intellectually vibrant environment, and we're such a good team," he says with a smile. "When your team is good, it's fun to play."

Dr. Mark Hans, Chair of Orthodontics at the dental school, says the multitasking Dr. Valiathan is a great teammate. "With a thriving private practice, a gift for teaching and a keen mind for research, Manish is a rare 'triple threat' faculty member," Dr. Hans says.

Dr. Valiathan's journey to CWRU was not exactly a direct flight. Born in Washington, D.C., his parents moved to India when he was 4 years old. He received his initial dental and orthodontic training at the Manipal Academy of Higher Education in India but returned to America in 1996 because "I wanted to play with the big boys" in the field of dentistry.

He got his wish. Dr. Valiathan joined Case Western Reserve University School of Dental Medicine, was retrained in dentistry and orthodontics and became a faculty member in 2000.

"Mark (Hans) took a chance on me," says Dr. Valiathan. "He offered me an opportunity to be on the faculty, and it has been a great experience."

Dr. Valiathan's research is focused on post-orthodontic tooth movement. "We have not done enough to find out how teeth move after we take the braces off," he says. "What influences post-orthodontic tooth movement? Too often, we don't examine this closely enough. The braces come off and the retainer goes on."

The well-published Dr. Valiathan directs the Orthodontic and Orthognathic Surgery Team and co-directs the Craniofacial Anomalies Team. He holds a joint appointment in the department of Pediatric Dentistry and is responsible for all orthodontic instruction for the Pediatric Dentistry Program at Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital. Dr. Valiathan is also a Senior Associate of the Bolton Brush Growth Study Center and an active member of the Craniofacial Biology Research group at CWRU. He has lectured at home and abroad on topics ranging from surgical and adult orthodontic treatment to early orthodontic treatment applications in children affected with congenital anomalies of the face.

Dr. Valiathan, a Diplomate of the American Board of Orthodontics, has a private practice, Summit Dental Specialists Inc., in suburban Macedonia, Ohio. He lives in nearby Sagamore Hills with wife, Madhavi, daughter, Diya, 4, and son, Arjun, 3.

Dr. Hans says he is proud to have Dr. Valiathan on his team. "At a time when it is difficult for many schools to find faculty, we are blessed to have someone like Manish who truly loves the academic life and thrives on the challenge of being a modern academic orthodontist," he says.



Manish Valiathan, M.D.S., D.D.S., M.S.D. '99

## CLASS NOTES

### CLASS OF 1977



**Colin Mayers** is an assistant clinical professor at the University of Michigan School of Dentistry and has a practice in Hillsdale, MI. Colin, who earned his dental degree at Michigan before coming to CWRU for his master's in orthodontics, is a Diplomate of the American Board of Orthodontics. He is the past president of the Michigan Association of Orthodontists, past chairman of the Council of Michigan Dental Specialties and is currently the orthodontic representative on the Peer Review Committee of the Michigan Dental Association.  
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### CLASS OF 1984



**Dr. Charles Canepa**, who has offices in Rocky River and Lorain, Ohio, spends his time away from work driving his children to gymnastics, soccer, hockey and other sports. He and his wife, Linda, also a dentist, have four children: Alexandra, Hannah, Ian and Everett, and a golden retriever named Hunter. Charles, who grew up in Rocky River and now lives in Lakewood, likes to compete in team sports, skiing, snowboarding and running when he's not attending youth games.  
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# Orthodontic News

SPRING 2008

## EARLY TREATMENT CLINIC DIRECTOR GARY WOLF, D.D.S., M.S.D. LOVES TO TEACH



Gary Wolf, D.D.S., M.S.D. '79

Two or three times a month, Dr. Gary Wolf makes the 60-mile drive from his home in Milan, Ohio to Case Western Reserve University School of Dental Medicine, where the orthodontist volunteers his time teaching residents the nuances of early treatment.

Dr. Wolf, who is director of the Department of Orthodontics' Early Treatment Clinic at CWRU, does so because he can't imagine his professional life without teaching.

"I enjoy it. It keeps me current. And I like to share things that I do well," says the affable Dr. Wolf, who went to CWRU for his undergraduate and dental school studies before getting his orthodontic training at the University of Washington. "There are some

great orthodontists out there, and I wish they'd find time to teach."

Dr. Wolf, who has a successful private practice in Norwalk, Ohio, has been a part-time teacher at CWRU since 1983. Dr. Mark Hans, chairman of the Orthodontic Department and one of Wolf's dental school classmates, calls him "one of our most dedicated part-time volunteers."

"He has developed an outstanding course in early treatment that is always a resident favorite," Dr. Hans says. "Gary also holds the world record for the lowest average post treatment PAR score for his finished orthodontic cases. His attention to detail is unsurpassed and I am always happy when his work habits rub off on our residents."

In the Early Treatment Clinic, Wolf says he stresses determining "what problems could benefit from early (generally, those ages 7-12) treatment and what can be delayed and treated

later with braces." The treatment mantra is this: "If early treatment doesn't make the (conventional stage of) treatment with fixed braces easier, better and more stable, then it shouldn't be done and the patient should be placed on observation."

Dr. Wolf says the curriculum covers all facets of early treatment, ranging from simple cross bite correction to the management of complex skeletal problems with fixed or removable functional appliances or headgear.

In the clinic, Dr. Wolf says he urges residents to observe other students once they are finished with their own scheduled patient visit. He says this exposes them to a wider variety of challenges offered by early treatment.

Eight times Dr. Wolf has been named CWRU's outstanding clinical orthodontic instructor. In addition, he received the Arthur E. Phelps Orthodontic Educator's Award in 2005.

Dr. Wolf and his wife, Christine, have two children, son, Adam, 11, and daughter, Lauren, 8, both of whom love sports. Christine plays the violin and runs (she has finished the Boston Marathon), while Dr. Wolf is an amateur photographer and youth baseball coach.

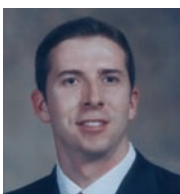
Dr. Hans says Dr. Wolf leads by example, and he's grateful to have him on the staff. "You couldn't find a better role model for the residents," he says.

## MEET THE INCOMING CLASS



**Robert Park**, who grew up in northwest Indiana, is spending this year working as a general dentist in a community health center in Rhode Island and teaching first-year dental students at Harvard School of Dental Medicine. He received his undergraduate degree in neuroscience from Brown University in 2003 and went to dental school at HSDM, where he had leadership roles in the American Student Dental Association before graduating in 2007. Robert, who was married in October, is an avid squash player and coach and says the sport "taught me the importance of hard work, sportsmanship and the balance between leadership and friendship."  
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**Brent C. Paulus** is an Alliance, Ohio native who received his DDS from The Ohio State University after getting his undergraduate degree in management information systems from OSU's Fisher College of Business. In June, he married dental school classmate Ashley Beroske, who has been accepted into CWRU's pediatric dentistry program. Brent says working at OSU's College of Dentistry and his father's, **William Paulus '76**, orthodontic practice "has shown me the importance of



orthodontics in treatment planning for children and adults." His hobbies include golf, competing in triathlons, skiing and, of course, cheering for his beloved Buckeyes.

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**Lindsey D. Schilling** is from Shaker Heights, Ohio and attended CWRU for both her undergraduate studies and dental school. She is graduating from dental school in May. While at CWRU, she took part in research and was a teaching assistant for first- and second-year students. She enjoys reading, watching movies and taking pottery classes.  
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**Randa Zarka** is originally from Aleppo, Syria but was raised in Holland, Saudi Arabia, Jordan and the United States. She received her undergraduate degree from the University of Houston and her DDS from the University of Texas Dental Branch in Houston. She currently lives in Houston and works as an associate dentist in a private practice. In her spare time, Randa enjoys reading, traveling, cooking and hanging out with friends.

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## CWRU MOURNS PASSING OF TWO PIONEERS

The Case Western Reserve University School of Dental Medicine and the dentistry community lost two pioneers with the passing of **Dr. Joseph Gould '33** and **Dr. Sanford Neuger '51**.

Dr. Gould, who was a member of the CWRU faculty for more than 50 years, died on Jan. 26. He was 100. Dr. Neuger, who served in both World War II and Korea and was also on the CWRU faculty for more than 50 years, died on Dec. 18. He was 82.

"In the last six months, CWRU lost 100 years of orthodontic teaching experience," says Dr. Mark Hans, professor and chairman of the Department of Orthodontics. "Joe and Sandy left a professional and personal legacy of service to the specialty that may never be surpassed. We will miss these charter members of the CWRU faculty family."