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# Greater Philadelphia Society of Orthodontists

SUMMER, 2009

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Greetings to my fellow members of the greatest profession in the world!

It is with great honor that I assume the position of President of our prestigious, highly respected and honored society. I first want to thank the members of the GPSO board for their hard work each year to produce a first class, informative, and current, annual all-day lecture. Special thanks to Dr. Mark Mele and his terrific office staff for absorbing the burden of the RSVP and actual day logistics.

Thanks also to Dr. Joe Persichetti whose leadership last year allowed us to have a "world" class presentation by Dr. Vanarsdall on the topic of 'Temporary Anchorage Devices'. Dr. Vanarsdall's lecture was, as expected, 'real take-home stuff', that we all could put right to work in our offices. As usual, Dr. Vanarsdall was humble enough to show us what works, as well as what doesn't work! Hopefully you didn't miss this great day of learning.

The present board is committed to continuing the high quality annual meetings and has put together a very timely, interesting, and 'not to be missed' meeting for this year. Please mark your calendar now for the **November 11, 2009** meeting. This year's meeting will be on the 'economics of orthodontics in today's financial climate'. The three well-known speakers and their topics will be as follows:

***Mr. Chris Bentson on "State of the Orthodontic Union" - outlining trends and benchmarks and "Understanding Your Profit and Loss Statement".***

<http://www.bentsonclark.com/>

***Cain-Watters on "Changing Times Require Action! A Commentary on the Current & Future Economic, Financial & Political Situation."***

<http://www.cainwatters.com/>

***Mr. Randall Berning on "What's Your Strategy Doctor?" Having in place a vision for the rest of your practice career and addressing the assumption that sooner or later practice growth will require transition and succession planning, including planning for retirement.***

<http://www.berning-affiliates.com/>

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I am sure all of you agree that the real benefit of the annual meeting is not only the knowledge gained by listening to the speakers but also the conversations and camaraderie experienced at the meeting. For those of you who may not know, our society has a long, proud heritage which dates back many years. Following the end of World War II, approximately 25 orthodontists were in practice in the Philadelphia area. They combined their efforts along with the help of Dr. John Valentine Mershon and formed the Philadelphia Society of Orthodontists which later evolved into the presently known Greater Philadelphia Society of Orthodontists. The mission of the society is to contribute towards the advancement of our profession and the success of our members.

The board would love to hear from you with suggestions for future topics. If you feel like me and the rest of the board, and believe in the importance of 'giving back', then please contact us regarding your availability to help with future meetings. See you in November!

Warmest Regards,  
Harold Middleberg, DMD



## TEMPLE ORTHODONTICS

Temple Orthodontics is particularly excited and looking forward to the next academic year. The reasons for this optimism are many. Foremost, the Kornberg School of Dentistry has a new Dean: Amid Ismail. There is much happening at the school with new transparency, novel programs, and preparation for our accreditation in 2011.

Meanwhile, the Department of Orthodontics, has moved into a swing space. Currently, we are using the chairs that were assigned to the dental students; the Department of Restorative Dentistry lent us 6 more. All the temporary chairs, receptionists' window, and the departmental office occupy a compact space. Although the overall space is miniscule, we have been able to place everything we need for the next few months. The residents have been wonderful in packing and helping to move. The departmental space is now fully gutted. The contractors have already started to build the new space in January, '09; we expect the ribbon cutting to take place sometime soon.

In addition to all this excitement, the incoming class is the finest credentialed entering class anywhere in the nation. We look forward to their contributions. They will be more active in the clinic as for the past two years we had purposely reduced our clinic load in anticipation of our move into the swing space. Recently Drs. Larry Smedley and Chris Smedley joined the faculty. They see patients on Tuesdays. We are very lucky to have them in our midst.

Dr. Bob Bray is now the President-elect of AAO. We are, of course, very proud. Also, Dr. Hyun-Duck Nah is the Program Chairman for the 2010 meeting in Washington, DC. She is putting together an exceptionally informative program. Her book entitled *Craniofacial Growth and Development* is in press, while Dr. Ackerman's book *Enhancement Orthodontics* is being translated into Russian and

Spanish. Both are published by Wiley.

Meanwhile, Dr. James Sciote has put together a very exciting sophomore course for the dental students. It is evidence-based and incorporates problem-based learning. Currently, he is expanding his initiative to include a web-based course that will also include competencies. We expect this course to go live for the Fall semester. Drs. Sciote and Slutsky are collaborating on this project. Dr. Michael Horton, our new research faculty collaborates with Dr. Sciote. He will play a significant role in our research activity; specifically, with the residents' MS theses.

Dean Ismail is ordering a new cone beam machine for the school. While we await ours, this machine will be instrumental in resurrecting our 3D imaging and animation work.

At Temple, we are very proud of our orthodontic heritage that goes back to Simeon Guilford. He published the first orthodontic textbook widely used, at the time, in the US dental schools. It is that tradition we preserve and propel.

Orhan C Tuncay, DMD  
Professor & Chairman



## **ALBERT EINSTEIN MEDICAL CENTER (AEMC) Orthodontic Residency Program**

I am truly pleased to announce that the three graduates of the class of 2008 have passed the oral and clinical case presentation examinations of the ABO and are now Diplomates of the American Board of Orthodontics. **Jacob Chartier, Audra Kiefer** and **Cary Leizer** presented their cases in Dallas in February. This is the third consecutive time since the ABO restructured the process allowing for immediate graduates to present cases treated in their residency programs, that our residents presented for this examination. It is a very special elective experience for anyone taking the boards, but most especially for recent graduates. Their accomplishment is indicative of quality individuals who were well trained by highly dedicated faculty exemplifying the very best as educators. Residents are mirror images of those who train them.

We are also very pleased that the Pennsylvania Association of Orthodontists awarded the David C. Hamilton Research Prize to **Dr. Cary Leizer**, a graduate of the class of 2008. Cary's Research, "Efficacy of a filled resin sealant in the prevention of decalcification during orthodontic treatment, an in vivo study", was also accepted for publication in the American Journal of Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics.

The residency selection process for residents entering in 2009 has concluded. Out of 182 applicants in whom 16 were interviewed, the following individuals were selected. They are **Dr. Paul Fox**, a graduate of the University of Oregon Health Sciences Center and the general practice residency program at the VA Medical Center in Portland Oregon; **Dr. Alicia Petros Stoutland**, a graduate of the University of Maryland and the general practice residency program at the VA Medical Center in Philadelphia; and **Dr. Sean Willcutts**, a

graduate of Boston University and most recently in Private Practice. The selection process presents the program with incoming residents whose potential should continue the tradition of excellence of the program.

Alan J. Borislow, DDS  
Chairman and Program Director



## PENN ORTHODONTICS

It has been a very busy year at Penn with several visiting lecturers and continuing education courses. In October our residents participated in the *Andrews Course* held in Washington, DC. On November 6 & 7, 2008 Drs. Robert Vanarsdall and Antonino Secchi presented a Continuing Education Course *Overview of Contemporary Orthodontics*. In January we had the distinct honor of hosting the *GAC Residents' Weekend*, held at the Inn at Penn. This was a two-day event with residents from 13 programs coming together for a weekend of seminars and other events. In March 2009, Dentaureum sponsored a one day course on the *Tomas TAD System* given by Dr. Sebastian Baumgaertel and in April, 3M Unitek sponsored a two-day *MBT* course with Dr. Richard McLaughlin which was also held at the Inn at Penn.

We also welcomed many Guest Lecturers and Visiting Scholars including Dr. Jong Suk Lee from Korea, who presented an all day seminar on "*Skeletal Anchorage Systems*." Dr. Lesley Will, Professor and Director of Postdoctoral Orthodontics at Tufts presented on "*Psychological Problems in Orthodontic Patients*". Dr. J-K Liu from Japan presented, "*Biomechanical Evaluation of Bony Anchorage in Orthodontics*" and Dr. John Hayes presented, "*Early Treatment and his Williamsport Orthodontic Study of 101 Phase I patients*."

A comprehensive clinic and didactic Orientation Program is scheduled for the summer as we welcome our incoming Class of 2011, *Dr. Rita Chung, Dr. Lindsey Helgen, Dr. Sophia Husain, Dr. Rebecca Radfar, Dr. Thomas Tejji*; the Masters in Oral Biology Class of 2012, *Dr. Ignacio Blasi and Dr. Paul Kocian*; and our combined program in Ortho-Perio second year resident *Dr. Amen Dhyllon*.

Congratulations to our Class of 2009. *Dr. Laura Cappetta, Dr. Sonal Dave, Dr. Jeffrey Gelb, Dr. Jennifer Mengers-O'Brien and Dr. Bryan Ruda* will be participating in the Orthodontic graduation ceremony to be held at the Hilton Inn at Penn on June 5th. Also receiving their Orthodontic certificates and Masters in Oral Biology diplomas are *Dr. Francois-Louis Comyn and Dr. Sennay Stefanos and Dr. Isabelle Mortalena* who will receive dual Certificates in Orthodontics and Periodontics.

In addition, we extend a heartfelt congratulations to Dr. Peter Greco, on his presidency of the American Board of Orthodontics. We all wish him well with this important endeavor.

Our 56th Annual Alumni Meeting will be held at the University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology on

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October 9th. This meeting will be unique in that it will be a Day of Recognition dedicated to honoring Dr. Robert Lee Vanarsdall, Jr. for his 25 years of service as Chairman of the Department of Orthodontics. Special thanks go out to Drs. J. Henry O'Hern and Peter Greco who serve as the Alumni Association's Co-Chairs for their continued work and dedication. Alumni wishing to attend this event should contact Mrs. Barbara Del Regino at 215 898-5910.

As always, we would be privileged to have you visit with us at PENN!

Respectfully yours,  
Robert L. Vanarsdall, DDS  
Professor and Chairman  
Department of Orthodontics



## GREETINGS FROM DELAWARE

The DSOS, with the support of MASO, has recently created a new state website [www.delawarestateorthodontists.com](http://www.delawarestateorthodontists.com). This website incorporates the AAO consumer awareness campaign message "More than a Smile" to help consumers consider Delaware orthodontists in this important health care decision.

Stephanie Steckel



## NEW JERSEY ASSOCIATION OF ORTHODONTISTS

The NJAO has had a very busy and successful year. Our continuing education programs were outstanding, and next year's speakers are arranged for what promises to be another interesting schedule, finishing in the spring with another presentation by Rosemary Bray, who will be back for her fourth time with us.

Our bylaws have been rewritten, passed by the membership, and allow for a more efficient and streamlined governing body of the Association. We are currently in the process of updating our logo and web site, which will be interactive for our members, and more informative and user friendly for the public. Furthermore, we are also going to hold several visioning sessions throughout the summer, which will help us determine the directions and goals of the Association for the foreseeable future.

Dr. Robert Loeb, President, NJAO



### **Greater Philadelphia Society Of Orthodontists Annual Meeting**

Wednesday November 11, 2009

8:00 AM – 5:00 PM

***Mr. Chris Bentson, Cain-Watters and Mr. Randall Berning***

*"The economics of orthodontics in today's financial climate."*

Union League, Philadelphia, PA

<http://www.gpsso.org>

**Remember to invite your Oral Surgeon and Periodontist!**