

Orthodontic Alumni Association of Illinois

The Department of Orthodontics
at the University of Illinois at Chicago
College of Dentistry

MOONSHOT 2029

Winter 2020

PANDEMIC REMINDS US TO AVOID ISOLATION, GET CONNECTED

*Dear Alumni, Colleagues,
and Friends,*

Let this be the only Orthodontic Alumni Association of Illinois Newsletter that ever mentions COVID-19! Overnight, this powerful adversary has changed us, but it also has informed and connected us.

Pre-pandemic, for 30 years I followed a strategy that our office should “make no more than one change per year.” It was my belief that in professional consistency, our specialty learns, improves, takes and gives comfort.

But in the blink of an eye, we had to change everything. Everything. We are working harder to see fewer patients per day. Staying on the same page with patients is now more challenging. As one of my best friends and ortho classmates said, “I have never worked so hard to make so little money.”

And yet, despite our end-of-day exhaustion from extra managerial issues, greater inefficiencies, and talking through an N95, we are rendering good orthodontic care. I’m grateful for what my staff has accomplished. I think the ship that we have built to cope with “asymptomatic-yet-infectious” is seaworthy. But now, the seas are getting choppy. We are now all hands-on deck—again.

Let us not get so lost in the now that we forget that our ships could not have been built if we all did not reach out and maintain daily contact with our fellow orthodontists. Our ships could not have

been built if we did not share—not just practical information, but also our fears and ignorance. Let us not forget our fellow Illinois alumni were instrumental in the modification of unrealistically restrictive governmental guidelines. And let us not get so lost in the extra exertion that we leave behind our newly graduated sisters and brothers.

Much of our Alumni Association effort is a focus on providing financial assistance, mentoring, and possible job opportunities for the residents. But there are some pretty powerful forces keeping our almost 100 year-old organization seemingly “less-than-relevant” in our lives. I remember what it was like to literally

crave freedom from mentoring, oversight, evaluation, and judgement. And frankly, we all practice uniquely, which is really quite difficult for any of us to embrace. This makes it easy to place alumni connections on the back burner.

But they are relevant. In the spirit of how the pandemic has reminded us that we cannot and should not be isolated, I will speak for all of us. Easy and palatable is the advice from Facebook group, consultants, CE gurus, and billion-dollar supply companies. Orthodontist-to-orthodontist interactions may be emotionally trickier, but that is how it is in families. We’re all in this together and it’s time to become connected!

Dr. Ken Kaplin (UIC '90)

Editor/Executive Director
Vincent J. Arpino, DDS, MS (UIC '96)
109 West Maple Avenue
Libertyville, IL 60048
(847) 362-8262
varpinobraces@msn.com

President
Pamela Johnson, DDS, MS (UIC '91)
545 Plainfield Rd. #D
Willowbrook, IL 60527
(630)887-1188
pjohnsonddsms@aol.com

Professor and Department Head
Sath Allareddy, BDS, PhD
Department of Orthodontics
(MC 841)
UIC College of Dentistry
801 S. Paulina St., 138AD
Chicago, IL 60612-7211
(312) 996-1809
sath@uic.edu

**We welcome
your support!**

Please help support the Alumni Association by completing the enclosed remittance envelope with your \$200 payment to the “Orthodontic Alumni Association of Illinois.” Please include your email address for frequent updates. We hope you enjoy the Alumni Directory this year and look forward to chatting with you on our group Facebook page.



*Class of 1990: Ken Kaplin, Robert Lauder,
Jeff Kemp, Mike Durbin*

ALUMS HELPING FUTURE ALUMS!

The UIC Department of Orthodontics held its Annual Scholarship Award Event via Zoom.

Congratulations to the following residents:

Dr. Stephen Degenhardt for receiving the *Dr. Jerome Fein (UIC '53) and Mrs. Joy Fein Endowed Orthodontic Resident Scholarship*.

Dr. Leslie Cohen for receiving the *Dr. Eugene Bair (UIC '52) and Mrs. Pauline Glucker Bair Scholarship*.

Dr. Galina Bulatova, Dr. Insia Virji, and Dr. Katherine Cardona Salazar for receiving *Department of Orthodontics Scholarships*.

Dr. Ruidan Ma, Dr. Sophie Moon, and Dr. Dmitry Shungin for receiving the *Dr. Allan G. Brodie (UIC '34, '40) Craniofacial Endowed Chair Research Scholarship Award*.

Thank you to all our talented residents, incredible faculty, and dedicated staff for the camaraderie, the leadership, and the support. It was great to celebrate this success together. We believe more exciting achievements are yet to come!



Congratulations Class of 2020!

Class President Dr. Amy Seagraves did a great job as MC of the virtual graduation banquet on May 8, 2020. Best wishes to Drs. Sibel Altun, Shayna Azoulay-Avinoam, Nora Bakhsh, Christine Chmil, Yena Jun, Ayas Makki, Annie Nguyen, Amy Seagraves, and Michael Seelig. Looking forward to a make-up celebration at the next American Association of Orthodontists (AAO) alumni reception!



IN MEMORIAM Dr. Alex Jacobson

Dr. Alex Jacobson (UIC '53), past Chairman of the Department of Orthodontics at the University of Alabama at Birmingham, has passed away.

Born in South Africa, he completed his dental education there in 1941. He received his MS degree in Orthodontics from the University of Illinois Chicago in 1953 and then returned to South Africa to private practice. He was head of the orthodontic department at the University of Witwatersrand (known as Wits,

hence the name "Wits" Cephalometric analysis). He received an MDS degree in 1961 and a PhD in physical anthropology in 1978 from the University of Witwatersrand. He was named Chair of the Orthodontic Department at the University of Alabama at Birmingham in 1976. He has wrote or edited textbooks and about 100 articles in refereed journals and was editor of the Reviews and Abstracts section of the American Journal of Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics.

Scientific, Scholarly Work Continues Despite Challenges

Dear Alumni and Friends,

Despite COVID-19, our department did a phenomenal job to further science and scholarly work.

In the past academic year, we obtained three American Association of Orthodontists Foundation (AAOF) awards, conferred to Drs. Phimon Atsawasuwana, Maysaa Oubaidin, and Laurie Susarchick. Congratulations to these scholars! Dr. Oubaidin joined us as a full-time faculty member in July 2020.

Dr. Samim Taraji (second-year resident) was selected by the AAOF to serve as Resident Director. I continue to serve on the AAOF Rapid Assessment of Evidence Panel and AAOF Planning and Awards Review Committee (PARC).

UIC Orthodontics is developing the Specialty Node and Cleft Lip/Palate Node of the National Dental Practice Based Research Network, which is funded by NIH/NIDCR.

In this past academic year, our department published 36 peer-reviewed articles in scientific journals and had 35 presentations at regional/national/international scientific meetings. Our faculty continue to have a regional and national presence in organized dentistry activities.

Dr. Jessica Begley (first-year resident) won the 2020 UIC College of Dentistry/ADA

Health Literacy in Dentistry Essay Contest Award in the post-doctoral student category.

Dr. Therese S. Galang-Boquiren, Associate professor, was elected a Fellow of the International College of Dentists.

Thanks to a generous gift from Graber family, the department will hold an annual "Graber Seminar Series" starting in September 2021. Speakers with national and international reputations will be invited to give lectures/talks at this annual event.

Welcome to our Class of 2024!

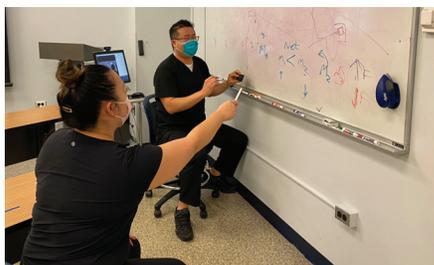
1. Evan Booth (University of Michigan)
2. Shirley Zhang (University of Pennsylvania)
3. Mathew Aaron Rhee (UIC)
4. Emelia Marie Karkazis (Marquette University)
5. Analia Tahir (Western University of Health Sciences)
6. Zachary Thor Skabelund (Ohio State University)
7. Stephen T. Treacy (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill)
8. Hsuan Rebecca Tsuei (UCLA)

I am very thankful to our alumni for their continued support of UIC Orthodontics. None of the achievements would be possible without the generous support of our alumni.

Sincerely,
Sath Allareddy



Clinical Track Faculty appointed as Tenure Track Faculty:
Drs. Mohammed Elnagar, Flavio Sanchez, Christina Nicholas



Dr. Isaac Yue Promoted to Clinical Associate Professor Teaching Biomechanics



Full Time Clinical Assistant Professor Dr. Maysaa Oubaidin on left with 2nd Year resident Samim Taraji and Dr. Isaac Yue



Dr. Kyin Chwa Promoted to Clinical Associate Professor spending time with the Residents