

Orthodontic Program Update  
University of Kentucky  
Update for the KAO 2012

**Divisional faculty updates:**

In October 2011, UKCD and the Division received the accreditation site visit team. Both the College and the Division had a very successful accreditation outcome. Since last year we have had many changes/additions to our faculty. I joined the faculty in September 2011, as Division Chief. Dr. James Hartsfield stepped down as Program Director in November 2011 after being at the helm of the program during a critical time. Dr. Thomas Kluemper was very excited to re-assume the role of the Program Director and I am grateful for his leadership. Dr. Cindy Beeman is the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and was pivotal in leading the college through accreditation. More recently, Dr. Lorri Morford (July 2012) joined the Division as a full time Assistant Professor, Research Title Series. Dr. Morford is the integral part of our research team, mentoring and guiding our orthodontic residents. In May 2012, Dr. James Thacker joined our Part-Time (PT) Faculty. Dr. Thacker practices orthodontics in Cincinnati, Ohio and previously was a part time faculty at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee. As many of you are aware we have currently advertised and are interviewing for a final junior level full time faculty position in Orthodontics. This will bring our faculty to 4 FT Orthodontists, 1 FT Research Faculty, and 6 PT faculty. Our current part time faculty are: Dr. Edgar Berre, Dr. Melvin Dean, Dr. Bruce Haskell, Dr. Judson Knight, Dr. James Thacker and Dr. Philip Wahle.

**Residency Updates:**

Dr. Jerrod Dempsey, Dr. Kristen George and Dr. Anna Vu graduated in May 2012, receiving their Certificate in Orthodontics and Master's Degree. Dr. Dempsey has returned to Northern Kentucky and has joined Gruelle Orthodontics. Dr. George has joined Tran Orthodontics in Louisville. Dr. Vu has joined Dr. Charles Machemehl in Atlanta, GA. We are also happy to announce that Dr. Varghah Lotfi, Dr. Karthikeyan Subramani and Dr. Masaki Sakamoto completed their one year fellowship in Craniofacial Biology.

At graduation, we were honored by Dr. Katherine Vig who presented a half day CE on "Evolving Concepts and Technical Advances in Orthodontics: How do they Influence Clinical Practice?" In addition, Dr. Vig and Dr. Judah Garfinkle, our 2005 Graduate, served as mock examiners for our graduating residents.

Last week, we were delighted to welcome our new 1<sup>st</sup> year orthodontic residents: Dr. Christian Francis joins us from the University of Texas at San Antonio. Dr. Karthik Subramani joins us from the University of Kentucky College of Dentistry Craniofacial Externship Program. Dr. Lucy Wachs joins us from the University of Kentucky College of Dentistry.

**Faculty Research, Presentations and Accomplishments:**

In 2011, Dr. Morford (PI) was awarded two years of R03 research funding from the NIH to study "Genetic Markers Associated with Epithelial Ovarian Cancer and Hypodontia". In June of 2012, Dr. Dave Fardo (UK Biostatistician) and Dr. Morford (Co-I) were awarded a one year pilot grant from the National Institute of Aging (NIA) for their project entitled "Inflammation and Alzheimer's disease: A Genome-wide Investigation of Interrelated Pathways". In a closely related pilot study, Drs. Morford and Hartsfield are interested in defining a genetic predisposition for chronic inflammatory disease within patient populations of individuals with either Periodontal Disease or Rheumatoid Arthritis. This 2 year pilot study will be funded by a P20 Center for Biomedical Research Excellence (COBRE) Grant directed by Dr. Jeffery Ebersole. In addition, Drs. Hartsfield and Morford are collaborating with Dr. Liliana Otero of the Pontificia Universidad Javeriana, in Colombia, South America on a grant relating to Prevalence and Diagnosis test for Obstructive Sleep Apnea. I was very fortunate to receive an AAOF Biomedical Research award in 2012 as PI on Implant/Skeletal anchorage Biology and am Co-I on another innovative collaborative effort on called Faculty Career Enhancements in Orthodontics (FACES in Orthodontics) Consortium, which is funded by the AAOF to Dr. Conley from University of Michigan. The goal is to assist orthodontic faculty nationwide in the career development.

Our faculty have published numerous peer reviewed manuscripts, book chapters and attended numerous meetings and abstracts. Notably, five faculty members presented their research at the 112th Annual Session of the American Association of Orthodontists in May 2012 in Oahu, Hawaii.

Dr. James Hartsfield received the Mentorship Award from the CCTS Annual Spring Conference at the Lexington Convention Center in March 2012, a university wide recognition. Dr. Hartsfield is very deserving of this recognition, which puts a spot light on our College and Division. Dr. Hartsfield has mentored a large body of students, residents, post-doctoral fellows and faculty. The impact of his efforts is tremendous. Some of his mentees are now full professors and in turn have mentored a large body of students. This is an exemplary achievement.

We have had a number of enrichment seminars in our graduate program, Drs. Ana Mercado, Ann Kummer, Preston Hicks.

#### **Resident Research/Events:**

Our graduating residents thesis topics were as follows:

Dr. Jerrod Dempsey “Genetic Association Study of CASP1 and EARR During Orthodontia”.

Dr. Kristen George “Genetic Association Analysis of CYP19A1 in Pubertal Sagittal Facial Growth”.

Dr. Anna Vu “Unraveling A Genetic Association Between Hypodontia and Epithelial Ovarian Cancer”.

In April of 2012, three residents applied for and received research grants from the SAO, Dr. Paul DiFranco, Dr. Nathan Hawley and Dr. Steven Zettler. In 2010, resident research awards from the SAO were also awarded to Dr. Jerrod Dempsey, Dr. Kristen George and Dr. Anna Vu. In the Spring, Dr. Anna Vu completed her residency research with Drs. Hartsfield and Morford which was funded by a competitive two year award for \$10,000 to Dr. Vu by the Proctor & Gamble/American Association of Women in Dentistry Scholarship (2010-2012). Dr. Hawley received a fellowship grant from Henry M. Thornton/SCADA at the 2011 ADA Annual Meeting.

Our second and third year residents attended the Tweed Course in Tuscon, Arizona, all residents and externs attended the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Burstone Symposium on Biomechanics at Indiana University in November 2011 and our first year residents and externs attended the Moyers Symposium in Ann Arbor, Michigan. In 2011 and 2012 our residents attend the Annual Graduate Orthodontics Residents Program (GORP). Our graduating class of 2012 attended the AADR meeting in Tampa and AAO in Hawaii to present their research finding.

Dr. Judson Knight has started a structured course on Practice Management course for our 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> year residents. Our residents have increased clinical and patient involvement and receive a wide variety of experiences for our diverse faculty. The clinical training of our residents, their development and success remains our focus.

#### **Alumni Events:**

The orthodontic alumni and faculty who were at the Graduation CE met over lunch to discuss opportunities and challenges in the near future. Dr. Megan McHugh has assumed to role of the primary contact within the Orthodontic Alumni group and we thank Dr. Robert Rust for all his tireless efforts over many years. We will have a Divisional newsletter to update you about events in the Division and a separate alumni newsletter is also being developed by Dr. Judson Knight.

#### **Staff Updates:**

We have a new Office Associate/Staff member in the Division, Ms. Donica Buechlein and she can be reached at donica.buechlein@uky.edu

#### **Upcoming events:**

UKCD has its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations scheduled on October 25-27<sup>th</sup>, 2012. Dr. Sonny Long and Dr. John Christensen, both dual trained and practicing orthodontists/pediatric dentists are scheduled for the morning of October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2012. They will speak on “The Role of Orthodontics in the Prevention and Management of Dental Trauma” and “The Use of the Diode Laser in Contemporary Orthodontics and Pediatric Dentistry”. Sonny and John have presented on these important topics on several recent occasions and their material has been extremely well received. We are expecting a big turn-out, and we would delighted for you to join us on October 27th. In addition, we are planning a joint TAD symposium in February 2013 in Lexington.

Submitted on behalf of the Faculty, Residents and Staff  
Sarandeep Huja, DDS, PhD  
Professor and Division Chief