

# DO SEE TELL

On behalf of the UK College of Dentistry Division of Periodontology faculty, staff, and residents, I welcome you to our 2019 newsletter. Our group has long enjoyed a national and international reputation for innovativeness and clinical expertise. We look forward to highlighting a few of our activities and achievements.

**Dr. Mohanad Al-Sabbagh**

## FACULTY FULL-TIME

- Dr. Mohanad Al-Sabbagh, Division Chief
- Dr. Dolphus Dawson, Graduate Program Director
- Dr. Luciana Shaddox, Associate Dean for Research
- Dr. Pratihtha Mishra

## FACULTY PART-TIME

- [Drs. Tom Rubino, Charles Rolph](#), and [Dr. Ryan Estes](#) cover the graduate periodontology clinic: they bring their heavy private practice experience to the graduate periodontology clinic and share their philosophy of practice management as well as patient management with periodontal residents.
- [Dr. Brittany Camenisch](#) supervises the dental students in clinic: she supports our vision in establishing a solid periodontal resident-DMD student rapport, which can be replicated in their future private practice life.

## STAFF

- Amanda Abner: Dental Hygienist
- Sherry Hacker: Dental Therapist
- Heather Hanley: Dental Therapist
- Prakash Shrestha: Dental Therapist
- Dana Satterly: Staff Support
- Ruta Valinskaite: Interim Manager
- Bobbi Jo Allen: Financial Counselor

## UK DIVISION OF PERIODONTOLOGY 2019

### FACULTY UPDATES

Every now and then, we receive news that we must say goodbye to some of our beloved staff and faculty. Saying goodbye always reminds us that the University of Kentucky is a learning community that encourages cultivating an active, reflective, and evolving professional practice.

**Dr. Samuel Jasper** retired June 30, 2019, after serving 39 years in the division of periodontics. We wish Dr. Jasper a happy retirement and thank him for his dedication and service to our department.

Dr. Jasper was born in Ravenna, Ohio, on July 9, 1951. He grew up in Athens, Ohio, and attended Athens High School. Following graduation, he attended Ohio University and earned a BS degree in Zoology in 1973. While attending Ohio University, he became interested in dentistry. Ohio State University became his home for three years, and he graduated with a DDS in 1976. He entered private practice in Ohio and became interested in periodontology. Dr. Jasper joined the graduate periodontology program at Ohio State University and completed his periodontal training and MS degree in 1980. He accepted a teaching position at the University of Kentucky College of Dentistry and began teaching at UK in 1980. Dr. Jasper was the Predoctoral Program Director of Periodontology at UKCD.



Dr. Jasper

Farewell Dr. Jasper! You will be missed!

**Dr. Luciana Shaddox** recently accepted the position of Associate Dean for Research for the College of Dentistry. We are confident that Dr. Shaddox will be successful in this highly esteemed position. Congratulations to Dr. Shaddox as she begins this new role.



Dr. Shaddox

## PROGRAM UPDATES

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The UK College of Dentistry and Division of Periodontology are diligently working to bring leading-edge technology to our graduate periodontology clinic for the benefit of patients, residents, and faculty.

Examples of our recent efforts include:

**LANAP Training:** As the breadth of techniques to provide periodontal therapies to patients increases, our program is striving to enhance the availability of these techniques so that our residents are at the forefront of new technology when they enter practice. Currently, approximately one in three AAP members are LANAP trained periodontists. Our program is the second in the nation to offer such training in a university setting. Dr. Dolph Dawson is a Certified Instructor for the Institute for Advanced Laser Dentistry and is offering the initial training to periodontal residents. The program is the third nationally to incorporate LANAP training, with one graduate already completing the program (Dr. Steve Litwin), and others soon to follow.

The Graduate program in Periodontology continues the long-standing history of clinical excellence and is building for the future of periodontal practice. The residents are fully engaged in **digital dentistry** and are treating **complex and multidisciplinary cases**, including implant supported fixed-prosthesis cases. This training opportunity distinguishes our program from others, nationwide. We currently have several types of 3D treatment planning implant softwares available to the residents to plan these cases. With the use of such software, residents require less surgical time and complications and increased patient case acceptance. The periodontology program has planned and completed several fully guided fixed hybrid cases and delivered "teeth in one day." The residents have utilized Done-in-One, N-Sequence, and V2R over the last year. Additionally, residents at our division have become proficient in guided-prosthetic implant provisionalization from a single implant to a full arch case. We have made it our mission to implement innovation into the digital workflow in implantology.

## COLLEGE UPDATES

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As of January 2019, Dr. Stephanos Kyrkanides is no longer the dean of the UK College of Dentistry. The University of Kentucky and the college are committed to continuing the progress that the college has made in the last few years under Dr. Kyrkanides' leadership. We are still striving to become one of the top dental schools in the nation. We appreciate the leadership that Dr. Kyrkanides provided toward this goal.

Larry Holloway, University of Kentucky Vice Provost, is serving as a temporary interim dean, continuing the college's momentum, as we search for the next dental-trained interim dean for the college.

The College of Dentistry, including the Periodontology Program, underwent the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) self-assessment and site visit during the fall 2018. This process accredits post-secondary level dental and dental-related education programs and ensures that the dental schools and programs meet the standards expected from a quality educational program. All of the programs under review, including the periodontics program, were re-accredited.

As of July 1, 2019, the College of Dentistry has started to use the new Classification of Periodontal and Peri-Implant Diseases. This classification will be taught in all clinical periodontal classes.

## RECENT RECOGNITION

**Dr. Firas AlYafi** won first place in the graduate level poster presentation at University of Kentucky's 6th Annual Implant Symposium and presented a poster in the Academy of Oseeointegration (AO) meeting in Washington, DC.

**Dr. Mostafa Tabaa** won third place in the clinical category of 2019 Pennel competition and presented a poster at the Southern Academy of Periodontology annual meeting in Naples, Florida.

## EXTERNSHIP PROGRAM

The Division of Periodontology offers an advanced one-year educational experience in periodontology and implantology for qualified international dentists. The program, established and directed by Dr. Mohanad Al-Sabbagh, provides didactic and clinical observational experiences.

The current externs are:

**Dr. Abdo Ismail** graduated from Modern Sciences and Arts University (MSA), Egypt, and completed a Preceptorship in restorative dentistry from UCLA.

**Dr. Rachad Kudsi** graduated from (RCDB), Saudi Arabia, and completed an internship program in Prosthodontics at the University of Florida.

**Dr. Ahmed Hawwa** graduated from University of Aleppo, Syria, completed a Maxillofacial residency from the University of Aleppo, and completed six-month Emergency residency from University of Aleppo.

## WAYS TO SHOW SUPPORT

Alumni can strengthen the quality and distinctiveness of the Periodontology Program at the University of Kentucky by volunteering their time or donating to one of the funds that benefit the program. You can volunteer by serving on the Periodontics Alumni Council or sharing your experiences with the residents. Donations can be made to any of the following funds. The names of the fund and their purposes are listed.

### Mark V. Thomas Endowed Fund

An endowment that enables the program to achieve and maintain program excellence and national prominence.

### Keith J. Lemmerman DMD Endowment for Graduate Periodontics

Provides support for residents' attendance at professional conferences and graduate program needs in the areas of research, equipment, and materials

### Donald Carmen Memorial Fund

Annual fund to provide for resident activities related to education, travel, due and graduation.

### J. Gary Maynard Jr. Professorship for Periodontology and Oral Health Research for the College of Dentistry

The purpose of endowed professorship is to enrich our program by either attracting caliber scholars to Kentucky as part of a recruitment package or it can recognize the work of a current faculty member who has contributed to the reputation of the Periodontology Division.

If you are interested in volunteering or hearing more about one of these funds, making a donation or discussing how you can make a planned gift, please contact Linda Epling, UKCD Director of Philanthropy at 859-323-6918 (office), 859-619-9173 (cell) or linda.epling@uky.edu.

### 2019 UKCD Periodontology Alumni Council Members

- Fred Rosenberg, Beachwood, Ohio, Chair
- Frank Avason, Denver, North Carolina
- Jay Beagle, Indianapolis, Indiana
- Stacey Blume, Cincinnati, Ohio
- Walt Colon, Florida
- Jeff Dickson, Winchester, Virginia
- Ryan Estes, Florence, Kentucky
- Chuck Rolph, Lexington, Kentucky
- Holland Wright, Albany, GA

# RESIDENTS

## CLASS OF 2019



**Dr. Ryan Rubino** is from Bradenton, Florida. He attended Mississippi State University for his undergraduate degree and graduated from UKCD in May 2016. His father is a periodontist and his younger brother is a periodontal resident as well. He will be moving back to Florida to work with his father in the family

practice upon graduation. Dr. Rubino's research involves a retrospective study looking at the effects the new Direct Oral Anticoagulant (DOAC) drugs have on post-operative bleeding and complications involving periodontal surgery. His mentors are Drs. Craig Miller, Dolph Dawson, Mohanad Al-Sabbagh, and Richard Kryscio.



**Dr. Josh Whitt** is from Calhoun, Kentucky. He attended Western Kentucky University for his undergraduate degree and graduated from UKCD in May 2016. Dr. Whitt's research involves histologically and radiographically evaluating, and then analyzing bone volume and density with reference to percentage of vital

bone after maxillary sinus grafting (via lateral window) with Osteocel Plus and cortical-cancellous allograft (alloOss). His mentors are Drs. Ahmad Kutkut, Mohanad Al-Sabbagh, Dolph Dawson, and Molly Housley Smith. Dr. Whitt is a member of the American Dental Association, the American Academy of Periodontology, the International Team for Implantology, and has attended courses around the nation involving implant site development and periodontal plastic surgery. In his free time, he enjoys the hunting and fishing in the outdoors, as well as spending time with his wife and family. Dr. Whitt plans to return to western Kentucky to enter private practice.

## CLASS OF 2020



**Dr. Firas Al Yafi** is from Damascus, Syria. He received his DDS degree in 2000. Following graduation, he started his residency in Oral Surgery in Damascus Central Hospital and earned an Arab Board Certificate for Oral Surgery in 2006. Following residency, he moved to Saudi Arabia and worked as an oral

surgeon for six years. With the full support of his wife and two kids, Dr. Al Yafi decided to move to the US with his family to begin a year-long externship in periodontology at University of Kentucky. In 2016, he moved to Gainesville, Florida, where he spent a year as a fellow of the prosthodontic program at the University of Florida before settling back into the periodontal program at UK. Dr. Al Yafi's project is looking at the effect of Platelet Rich Fibrin (PRF) on the quality of newly formed bone in the preserved extraction socket. His randomized parallel arm, clinical study involves histomorphometric and CBCT analysis. Drs. Mohanad Al-Sabbagh, Dolph Dawson, and Galal Omami serve as the research committee.



**Dr. Lucinda Belcher-Owens** is from Elkhorn City, Kentucky. She attended Vanderbilt University for her undergraduate degree and earned a dental degree from the University of Louisville in May 2017. Dr. Belcher's research involves a retrospective study comparing trimester specific cytokines between CVF fluid and oral saliva. Her mentors are Drs. Dolph Dawson, Mohanad Al-Sabbagh and Kristin Ashford.



**Dr. Drew Zegeer** is originally from Charleston, West Virginia. He attended West Virginia University for his undergraduate degree and completed dental school there as well in May 2016. Following dental school, he completed a General Practice Residency at Miami Valley Hospital in Dayton, Ohio. Upon

graduation, Dr. Zegeer will be returning to southern West Virginia to pursue a career in private practice. His research involves a retrospective study evaluating the effects of systemic nicotine levels on salivary cytokine biomarkers in pregnant women. His mentors are Drs. Dolph Dawson, Mohanad Al-Sabbagh, and Kristin Ashford.



## CLASS OF 2021



**Dr. Tyler Rubino** was born and raised in Bradenton, Florida. He attended Mississippi State University for an undergraduate degree in Biological Sciences and completed dental school at the University Of Kentucky. Upon completing his residency, he plans to join a private periodontal practice with his father and brother. Dr. Rubino's research evaluates the genetic profile associated with response to treatment in localized aggressive periodontitis. His mentors are Drs. Luciana Shaddox, Dolphus Dawson, Lorri Morford, and James Hartsfield.



**Dr. Mostafa Tabaa** is from Damascus, Syria. He has graduated from Damascus University Collage of Dentistry in 2002. He practiced general dentistry in his private office for over 10 years in Damascus before coming to the United States for advanced training. Prior to joining the residency program, he served as an instructor for dental assistants for two years at Harris School of Business in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and completed a one-year fellowship in Periodontology at University of Kentucky. Dr. Tabaa's research involves a retrospective study focused on looking at the early patterns of localized aggressive periodontitis in affected children and their siblings. His mentors are Drs. Luciana Shaddox, Dolph Dawson, and Mohanad Al-Sabbagh.

## CLASS OF 2022



**Dr. Nehal Almehmadi** received her bachelor degree in dental medicine (BDS) from King Abdulaziz University in 2011. She started her career in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, where she worked as a general dentist in private practice. Dr. Almehmadi joined the University of Kentucky international periodontology externship program in January 2018. During her stay here, she received formal training in periodontics including theoretical, research, and clinical patient care. This experience fueled her desire to pursue a career as a periodontist, so she applied to the University of Kentucky graduate periodontology program. She was accepted into the program and started July 1, 2019. Dr. Almehmadi moved to Lexington in 2018. In her free time, she enjoys horseback riding and learning new languages. She found Kentuckians to be most welcoming, and she is planning to dedicate her time to providing well-rounded patient care to the residents of Kentucky.

member of the Egyptian Dental association, AO, and AAP. He is committed to pursue his education in Periodontology and become a board-certified periodontist to serve in the Kentucky area.



**Dr. Octavio Gonzalez** was born in Bogotá D.C., Colombia. He graduated Pontifical Xaverian University with a DDS in 1993, and after four years of practice, he joined his alma mater as faculty. While there for eight years, he combined academia and dental practice and also obtained a master's degree in Microbiology. Motivated to complete oral health research, Gonzalez moved to Lexington in 2005 to pursue a PhD degree in Microbiology and Immunology at UK, working with Dr. Jeffrey Ebersole as a mentor. After completing his PhD in 2010, he joined UKCD as an assistant professor, and was promoted to associate professor. His main research interests are: (i) the effects of aging on the innate immune responses of the oral mucosa; and (ii) the role of oral commensal- and pathogenic bacteria-epithelial cell interactions in early events of the pathogenesis of periodontal disease.



**Dr. Walied Eldomiaty**, originally from Cairo, Egypt, received his BDS from Misr University for Science and Technology (MUST) in 2004. After graduation, he practiced general dentistry in his private practice located in Cairo for 10 years. He moved to the United States in 2016 and joined the externship program of Periodontology at the University of Kentucky in 2017 and has two publications with the department. He is also an avid volunteer at Mission-Lexington as a general dentist to serve the indigent community. Dr. Eldomiaty is currently a



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Return service requested

