

Remembering Drs. Lemmerman and Thomas

Dr. Keith Lemmerman passed away in November 2012. Lemmerman, a graduate of the University of Kentucky, was a part-time faculty member in the UK Division of Periodontology from 1979-2008. He tirelessly and generously took time from his busy practice and local dental society efforts to drive from Cincinnati to UK to share his clinical experience with the graduate periodontology residents. He was a beloved member of UK's periodontology family for many years. We are extremely grateful for all of his support, including his gift which helped to establish the Lemmerman Endowment to support future generations of residents who train at UKCD.

Dr. Mark Thomas passed away in June 2012. Thomas, a graduate of the University of Kentucky, served as Program Director of Graduate Periodontology from 1997 to 2006, Division Chief of Periodontology from 1999 to 2010, and Chairman of Oral Health Practice from 2005 to 2011. He was a genuinely gifted educator who showed his passion for his profession by teaching and epitomizing the model of lifelong learning, and a role model for what all young academicians should aspire to become.



Dr. Keith Lemmerman Dr. Mark Thomas

Mark Thomas Fund Introduced

For many years, **Dr. Mark Thomas** was a fundamental part of the UK College of Dentistry. He left his mark on many students that passed through our doors. To honor that impact and carry it forward to future generations, a Dr. Mark Thomas Fund is being established. Additional details will be available in the coming months.

Periodontics Graduate Clinic

The **UK College of Dentistry** and **Division of Periodontology** are diligently and continually working to bring cutting-edge technology to our clinic for the benefit of patients, students, residents, and faculty. Examples of our efforts include:

- UKCD has digitized radiology services and recently acquired a Cone-Beam CT unit.
- Acquired two piezosurgery units which have been very popular among the residents and faculty who have used it for advanced bony procedures. The units are very helpful in the extraction of teeth and in sinus augmentation surgery.
- We have started using bone morphogenetic protein (rhBMP2) in regenerative surgery. Our early results have been quite encouraging.
- We have also begun using the new "Roxolid" implant from Straumann AG. This implant is composed of an alloy of zirconium and titanium, which results in significant enhancement of its physical and biological properties.
- The "Bone Level Tapered" is now being used for cases with limited space and immediate loading protocols.
- The graduate periodontology clinic has recently obtained the surgical kit and pertaining software and license from Straumann for planning and execution of "Guided Implant Surgery."



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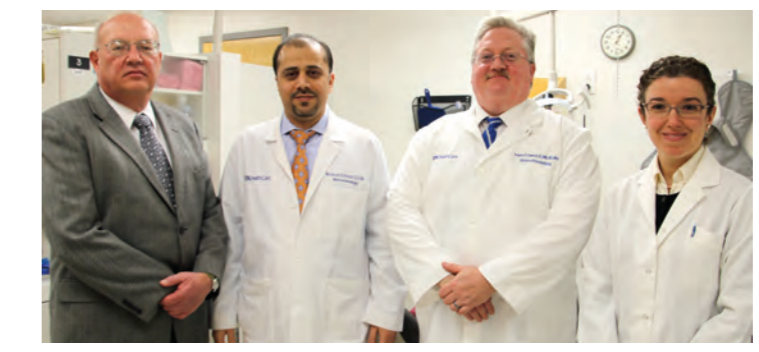


On behalf of the faculty, staff, and residents of the **UK College of Dentistry Division of Periodontology**, I welcome you to our inaugural newsletter. Our group has long enjoyed a national and international reputation for innovativeness and student friendliness. The purpose of this newsletter is to share UKCD and Division news, and stay connected with our alumni. We look forward to sharing what is happening at least once a year.

On the note of staying connected, please stay tuned for an announcement of our Fall 2016 Periodontal Alumni Reunion. Many alumni attended our first reunion in 2001, and the following reunion in 2006. In addition to catching up with one another, we'll have the chance to enjoy Keeneland in the afternoon and attend a UK football game. I look forward to sharing details as many have voiced their desire for another reunion weekend.

Mohanad Al-Sabbagh, Chief, Division of Periodontology and Graduate Program Director

Our Periodontal Family



Left to Right: Dr. Samuel Jasper, Dr. Mohanad Al-Sabbagh, Dr. Dolphus Dawson, and Dr. Pinar Emecen-Huja



Left to Right: Robin Stovall, Amanda Abner, Cheryl Huffman, Sherry Hacker, Heather Hanley, Breanna Rainwater

<p>4 full-time periodontal faculty</p> <p>Dr. Mohanad Al-Sabbagh, Division Chief and the Graduate Program Director</p> <p>Dr. Samuel Jasper, Undergraduate Program Director</p> <p>Dr. Dolphus Dawson, Assistant Program Director for Research</p> <p>Dr. Pinar Emecen-Huja</p>	<p>7 part-time periodontal faculty</p> <p>Dr. Doug Neumann Dr. Tom Rubino Dr. Neal Shepherd Dr. Ward Piegrass Dr. Kate von Lackum Dr. Allison Wright Dr. Elliot Neumann</p>
<p>7 periodontal residents 2 periodontal externs 9 staff members</p>	

Faculty News

Dr. Pinar Emecen-Huja is the division's newest full-time. Emecen-Huja obtained her dental degree from Turkey, after which she completed her graduate work in periodontology at Ohio State University. She was awarded Diplomate of the American Board of Periodontology status and completed the Summer Institute in Clinical Dental Research Methods in Seattle, Washington. Emecen-Huja has extensive experience in academic periodontology and research, and we are glad she has joined our academic family!

Dr. Dolph Dawson was awarded Diplomate of the American Board of Periodontology status. He has completed the five evolutions in the training in Advanced Dental Laser (ADL).

Dr. Samuel Jasper continues to carry the heavy teaching load for predoctoral students, currently a course director of four predoctoral courses.



Dr. Pinar Emecen-Huja



Dr. Dolph Dawson



Dr. Samuel Jasper



Dr. Mohanad Al-Sabbagh



Dr. Stephanos Kyrkanides

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. Current externs are Drs. Firas Al Yafi and Ghadeer Baqais.



Dr. Ghadeer Baqais and Dr. Firas Al Yafi

Dr. Mohanad Al-Sabbagh completed the American Dental Education Association Leadership Institute, 2012-2013. He served as guest editor for the January 2015 issue of Dental Clinics of North America, covering the topic of "Complication in Implant Dentistry." The issue contains 13 chapters based on a blend of knowledge gained from clinical experience and the current body of dental literature. The aim of the issue was to assist clinicians in identifying and treating undesirable presurgical, intrasurgical, and postsurgical problems associated with implant placement, as well as to describe and suggest management options for reported implant complications.

We also wish to congratulate **Dr. Stephanos Kyrkanides** on his position as Dean of the UK College of Dentistry. Kyrkanides joined us in August 2015, departing the University of Stony Brook.

Class of 2016

Tyresia White is a native of South Carolina. She received a Bachelor of Science in biology from Furman University. Then she continued her education with an Associate Degree in dental hygiene from Greenville Technical College. After nearly two years in private practice, White entered the UK College of Dentistry as part of the 2013 dental class. A background in hygiene and an interest in surgery naturally lead her to pursue a residency in periodontology. White is working with Dr. Octavio Gonzalez on Molecular Pathways of Epithelial Cell Death from Oral Bacteria to determine the capacity of oral commensal and pathogenic bacteria to induce apoptotic, necrotic and pyroptotic cell death pathways of oral epithelial cells.

Samer Faraj graduated from the University of Baghdad where he received his Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS). He also completed a General Practice Residency at Al Kindi Teaching Hospital in Baghdad, Iraq, and was a General Dental Practitioner in Sultanate of Oman in both the private and governmental sectors. He came to Lexington to participate in a Periodontology and Implantology Fellowship at UK College of Dentistry, and entered the Periodontology Program in July 2013. He is working with Dr. Mohanad Al-Sabbagh in a research project which compares BioXclude and MemLok membrane for socket bone augmentation.

Michael Piepgrass graduated from the University of Saskatchewan with a BA in Spanish and obtained his DMD from the UK College of Dentistry. His personal interests include outdoor cooking, gardening, and yard sale shopping. He and his wife are the proud parents of two sons and a daughter. Piepgrass is working with Dr. Octavio A. Gonzalez to evaluate the effects of aging on gingival apoptotic responses.

Class of 2017

Ishita Bhavsar received her Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS) from the University of Mumbai. Bhavsar believed international experience and education would give her an advantage in her career and decided to join Department of Periodontology and Implantology Externship at UK in July 2012. Since, she has been working under the guidance of Drs. Mohanad Al-Sabbagh, Jeffrey Ebersole, Dolph Dawson, and Craig Miller with her major research focus on salivary biomarkers in diagnosing peri-implant diseases.

Mohamed Rezk earned his Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS) in 2002 Alexandria University. He has completed internships at multiple governmental hospitals. Rezk joined the Egyptian Navy for one year, where he served as a Dentist Officer. He is currently working with Drs. Ahmad Kutkut and Mohanad Al-Sabbagh on a clinical research project to compare the success of implants immediately loaded with mandibular overdenture using two locator type attachments to implants with delayed loaded mandibular overdentures.

Class of 2018

Steven Litwin graduated magna cum laude from the University of Albany, State University of New York. Litwin went on to graduate from the University of Buffalo, School of Dental Medicine where he completed a concentration in periodontics. Following dental school, he was fortunate enough to enter into General Practice Residency at Newark Beth Israel Medical Center. Upon graduating from the GPR program, he was accepted at UK. He is currently investigating alternative techniques for socket preservation.

Brittany Camenisch was born and raised in Stanford, Kentucky. In 2013, she graduated from the UK College of Dentistry. Camenisch worked in both private practice and public health dentistry, which lead to a desire to specialize in the field of periodontics. She is investigating the use of periscope in the diagnosis and treatment of Peri-implantitis.

Class of 2019

Our incoming residents, **Ryan Rubino** and **Joshua Whitt**, will arrive in July 2016. Both are graduating from UK College of Dentistry.

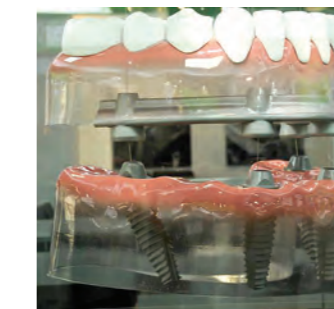
Recent Graduates

Nathan Johnson and **Jimmy Vellis** completed their periodontal training in June 2015. Johnson is practicing in Washington State, while Vellis is practicing in Florida.

Periodontal Residents



Left to right: Dr. Firas Al Yafi, Dr. Brittaney Camenisch, Dr. Samer Faraj, Dr. Mohanad Al-Sabbagh, Dr. Michael Piepgrass, Dr. Mohamed Rezk, Dr. Ishita Bhavsar, Dr. Steven Litwin, and Dr. Tyresia White



Straumann implant display.

Implant Study Club

The Division of Periodontology has established an international study club in implantology directed by Dr. Mohanad Al-Sabbagh. The club is completely funded by the international organization International Team for Implantology (ITI). Meetings are held four times a year and typically feature a speaker presenting up-to-date topics on implantology. The next UKCD-ITI study club will be held on Wednesday, April 20 from 3-6 p.m. Dr. Harris from University of Louisville will talk about Straumann Pro-Arch (implant supported fixed edentulous immediate restorations).

For more information on upcoming meetings, please contact Dr. Mohanad Al-Sabbagh.

Research & Scholarly Activity

In the last three years, periodontal faculty have...



Our Division achieved national recognition by obtaining the American Academy of Periodontology Clinical Science Award as a result of a clinical research project conducted by Dr. Christina Park (graduated resident), under the mentorship of Dr. Mohanad Al-Sabbagh.



Recent Research Efforts

Xenogenic Collagen Matrix to Increase the Zone of Attached Mucosa Around Implant: The objective of this clinical prospective split-mouth study is to evaluate the efficacy of Collagen Matrix as an alternative to the Epithelialized Free Gingival Graft to increase the zone of attached mucosa around dental implants.

Bone Quality and Quantity in Extraction Socket Graft Using Amnion-Chorion Membrane: The objective of this study is to evaluate the quality and quantity of the newly formed bone in the extraction socket using amnion-chorion membrane (BioXclude®) as a barrier.

Immediate Loading of Unsplinted Implant Retained Mandibular Overdenture: A Randomized Controlled Clinical Study: This study will compare clinical, radiographic outcomes of loaded vs. unloaded implants used in overdentures.

Comparison of Crevicular Fluid Biomarkers in Peri-implant disease following periodontal therapy: This study will assess markers of inflammation and bone metabolism following treatment of peri-implantitis.

Effects of Aging in gingival apoptotic responses: The objectives of this study include comparison of apoptotic gene expression within gingival tissues of younger and aged nonhuman primates.

Molecular Pathways of Epithelial Cell Death from Oral Bacteria: The aim of this study is to determine the capacity of oral commensal and pathogenic bacteria to induce apoptotic, necrotic and pyroptotic cell death pathways of oral epithelial cells.