

### Periodontology 2016-2019 Strategic Plan

We are excited to share a brief look at our new strategic plan with you! By 2019, the Division aims to:

- Strengthen the quality and distinctiveness of the Periodontology Program.
- Increase the ability of the Periodontology Program to perform more complex and advanced periodontal and implant surgery.
- Increase the quality and quantity of applicants for the Periodontology Residency Program.
- Enhance the number and quality of opportunities for periodontal residents to participate in research.
- Build a strong alumni base with the alumni of the UKCD Periodontology Program.



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Return service requested

### Perio Alumni Council Created

Throughout its history, **UK Periodontics** has had a strong alumni base. The Division wishes to engage its alumni further, and as a first step, created a Periodontic Alumni Council. The members of the Council are from a wide geographic area, stretching across the country.

The purpose of the Council is to:

- Engage graduates of the UK College of Dentistry Periodontics Division with the program and school
- Help to guide fundraising efforts to establish a Mark Thomas Fund
- Provide guidance to the Perio Program as needed

During 2016, the Council provided direction on two projects. The first was a reunion for perio alumni. The second effort was to develop a strategic plan for the program—see inside panel—to guide efforts to strengthen the quality and distinctiveness of UK's Periodontology Program.



Dr. Mark Thomas

### The Return of the Periodontic Reunion



Dr. Jay Beagle

On October 7, the Division of Periodontology hosted a reunion for all perio graduates at the Hyatt Regency in downtown Lexington. The main feature of the reunion was a continuing education presentation by **Dr. Jay Beagle**. The course addressed the aesthete and aesthetic considerations as they relate to immediate dental implant treatment. Attendees could also participate in the UK College of Dentistry's Fall Symposium activities.



Dr. Stan Saxe

The event also celebrated 50 years of graduating periodontal classes at UKCD. **Dr. Stan Saxe** shared his memories of the faculty and students who had been part of the program. Film clips of the 35th Anniversary of the program were shown. These clips included comments from Drs. Al Morris, Harry Bohannon, Cliff Ochsenbein, and Gary Maynard. Saxe's memories and the video clips reminded all attendees of the rich history of the program.

### Do we have your email?

Please make sure we have your current email on file. Contact Dewayne Martin at [dmart5@uky.edu](mailto:dmart5@uky.edu).

### Periodontic Alumni Council Members

**Frank Avason**

Class of 2001, Denver, NC

**Jay R. Beagle**

Class of 1984, Indianapolis, IN

**Walter E. Colon**

Class of 2000, Tallahassee, FL

**Charles E. Dyer**

Class of 2005, Cypress, TX

**Mark A. King**

Class of 2012, Georgetown, KY

**Fred Rosenberg**

Class of 1972, Beechwood, OH  
Chair, Periodontic Alumni Council

**Holland Wright**

Class of 2004, Albany, GA

**Stacey Blume**

Class of 2002, Cincinnati, OH  
\*Starting in 2017

## Perio Faculty News



**Dr. Mohanad Al-Sabbagh**, Division Chief, is a Diplomate of the American Board of Periodontology and also an active member of the American Academy of Periodontology, American Dental Education Association, International Team for Implantology, and the Institute for Advanced Laser Dentistry.



**Dr. Dolph Dawson** is a Diplomate of the American Board of Periodontology and an active member of the American Association for Dental Research, American Academy of Periodontology, American Dental Education Association, International Team for Implantology, and the Institute for Advanced Laser Dentistry. Dawson is the Graduate Program Director and recently became certified as an instructor for the Institute for Advanced Laser Dentistry.



**Dr. Pinar Emecen-Huja** is serving as the division's Assistant Program Director for Research. She is also in charge of the PER 770 treatment plan course, designed to help graduate periodontology residents develop surgical treatment plans and discuss evidence-based practices for patients with advanced periodontal diseases, existing systemic diseases, and tooth loss. Huja has extensive

experience in academic periodontology and research. She is a Diplomate of the American Board of Periodontology and recently completed the CCTS certificate program.



**Dr. Samuel Jasper** continues to carry a heavy predotoral curriculum teaching load, and also has a large service and administrative commitment. In addition, he serves as the new director of PER 661, a graduate periodontology emergency course. Jasper developed hands-on medical emergency training and worked with residents on the creation of their own office emergency kit. Jasper is an asset to the division,

going above and beyond to serve on many vital committees at the department, college, and university level.

## Periodontal Residents

### Class of 2017



**Dr. Ishita Bhavsar** received her Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS) Degree from the University of Mumbai in India. Bhavsar believes international experience and education will give her an advantage in her career, which led her to join our externship program in July 2012. Since then, she has been working under the guidance of Drs. Mohanad Al-Sabbagh, Dolph Dawson, Jeffrey Ebersole, and Craig Miller. Her major research focus is on salivary biomarkers in diagnosing peri-implant diseases. Following completion of her training, she desires to continue her research work and clinical practice.



**Dr. Mohamed Rezk** was born and raised in the city of Alexandria, Egypt, where he lived with his parents and his younger brother, who is an engineer. After earning his Bachelor of Dental Surgery Degree (BDS) in 2002 from Alexandria University, he completed internships with multiple governmental hospitals. Rezk joined the Egyptian Navy for one year, where he served as a Dentist Officer. Rezk's research with

Drs. Mohanad Al-Sabbagh, Dolph Dawson, Bob Frazer, and Ahmad Kutkut focuses on comparing the success of implants immediately loaded with mandibular overdenture using two locator type attachments to implants with delayed loaded mandibular overdentures.

### Class of 2018



**Dr. Brittany Camenisch** was born and raised in Stanford, Kentucky. She attended Centre College, where she was awarded a Bachelor of Science degree in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. In 2013, Camenisch graduated from the University of Kentucky College of Dentistry with her DMD degree. She has worked in both private practice and public health dentistry, which lead to a desire to specialize in the

field of periodontics. Camenisch's research project involves assessing phospholipase A2-IIA expression levels associated with health, gingivitis, and periodontitis. Her research mentors include Drs. Mohanad Al-Sabbagh, Dolph Dawson, Jeffrey Ebersole, Octavio Gonzalez, and Craig Miller. Camenisch is a member of the Kentucky Dental Association, American Dental Association, and the American Association of Periodontics.



**Dr. Steven D. Litwin** graduated magna cum laude from the University of Albany, State University of New York. While attending university, he served as an EMT for the city of Albany. Litwin later went on to graduate from the University of Buffalo, School of Dental Medicine where he completed a concentration in periodontics. Following dental school, he entered into General Practice Residency at Newark Beth Israel Medical Center. Upon graduating from the GPR program, he joined the UK periodontal program. Litwin has traveled to both the Middle East and South America, planning and completing oral surgical procedures for under-served populations. His research project involves assessing bacterial profiles of newly placed implant patients following periodontal treatment. His mentors are Drs. Dolph Dawson, Jeffrey Ebersole, and Pinar Emecen-Huja. Litwin intends to enter into private practice upon completion of the periodontal program while maintaining a part-time position at his local university.

### Class of 2019



**Dr. Ryan Rubino** is from Sarasota, Florida. He went to Mississippi State University for his undergraduate degree and attended UK for dental school, graduating in 2016. His father is a periodontist and his younger brother is a third-year dental student. Rubino's research project will involve evaluation of treatment of gingival recession with conventional connective tissue grafts and that of a new surgical technique. His research mentors are Drs. Mohanad Al-Sabbagh, Dolph Dawson, and Pinar Emecen-Huja. Rubino plans to return to Florida in order to work with his father in the family practice upon graduation.



**Dr. Josh Whitt** was born and raised in Calhoun, Kentucky. He attended Western Kentucky University where he was awarded his Bachelor of Science degree in Biology and graduated from the University of Kentucky College of Dentistry in 2016. Whitt is a member of the Kentucky Dental Association, American Dental Association, and the American Academy of Periodontology. In his spare time, he loves traveling, hunting, fishing, and spending time with his fiancé. His research efforts will focus on comparison of bone regeneration in sinus augmentation utilizing allograft and novel regenerative materials. His research mentors include Drs. Mohanad Al-Sabbagh, Dolph Dawson, and Ahmad Kutkut.



**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, 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 recently 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. As part of UKCD's faculty development program, he started the Periodontics Residency program.

### Class of 2020

The following residents will arrive in July 2017:

**Dr. Andrew Zeeger** from West Virginia University School of Dentistry

**Dr. Firas Al-Yafi** from University of Al-Baath, Syria

**Lucinda Belcher-Owens** from University of Louisville School of Dentistry

### 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. Amal Alfaraj** and **Walid EIDomiaty**.

### 2016 Pero Graduates

**Drs. Tyresia White**, **Samer Faraj**, and **Michael Piepgrass** completed their periodontal training in June 2016. White is practicing in South Carolina, Faraj is practicing in Texas, and Piepgrass is practicing in Lexington, Kentucky.

## Our Periodontal Family

### 4 full-time periodontal faculty

**Dr. Mohanad Al-Sabbagh**,  
Division Chief

**Dr. Dolph Dawson**,  
Graduate Program Director

**Dr. Pinar Emecen-Huja**  
Assistant Program Director for Research

**Dr. Samuel Jasper**,  
Undergraduate Program Director

### 5 part-time periodontal faculty

**Dr. Doug Neumann**

**Dr. Elliot Neumann**

**Dr. Tom Rubino**

**Dr. Neal Shepherd**

**Dr. Allison Wright**

7 periodontal residents

2 periodontal externs

9 staff members

## Periodontics Graduate Clinic



Drs. Abboud (l) and Windhorn (r)

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

- With the approval of UKCD's latest strategic plan, we have elected to focus on educating the dentist of the future, now. Creating innovative and state-of-the-art curricula is an important part of this effort. To assist with this work, **Dr. Marcus Abboud**, Assistant Dean for Digital Dentistry, and **Dr. Rick Windhorn**, Associate Dean for Digital Dentistry, were hired. The Division of Periodontology is working closely with both to integrate technology into our curriculum in order to transform the workflow of prosthetic planning and implant placement. Our residents will be able to incorporate these concepts into their practices and enhance their referral relationships. Several residents have planned, or are planning, digital cases. Further workflow/technology implementation is planned.

- **LANAP Training:** Currently, approximately one in three AAP members are LANAP trained periodontists. As the breadth of techniques to provide periodontal therapies to patients increases, our program is striving to enhance the availability of these techniques for our periodontal residents to take with them into practice. UKCD is formalizing an agreement with Millennium Dental Technologies to provide an optional LANAP curriculum to the periodontal residents. Our program will be among the first in the nation to offer such training. Dr. Dolph Dawson is a Certified Instructor for the Institute for Advanced Laser Dentistry and will be able to offer the initial training to periodontal residents.

- **ProArch Conversion:** Patient expectations drive dental treatments. Providing fixed edentulous immediate restorations for edentulous patients is a complex procedure. The Straumann Pro Arch for fixed edentulous restoration offers all components needed to provide a less complex protocol. The Division of Periodontology recently hosted a speaker who provided a thorough presentation and hands-on training on denture conversion for immediate load fixed screw-retained restoration on four to six implants.