Mark Twain said that “History does not repeat itself but it does rhyme.” For the past 65 years the periodontal program at OSU has been rhyming with success. Regardless of what they do, the alumni of this program have been successful whether it is in practice, education, or service. Even before I came to this program as a faculty member I was influenced by the people who were educated here. As a dental student, I was the WVU representative for the American Dental Education Association and met the OSU representatives (Laurie McCauley 1 and Fred Alger 2) who were and are kind, helpful and supportive people. As a MCV periodontal resident, my Clinic Director was the wise and empathetic Alan Sarbin 3 and I became fast friends with one of the most astute MCV residents, Loren Frumker, whose father was Sanford Frumker 4. Later in my residency I came to know Dr. Billy Pennel 5 because of the award by the Southern Academy of Periodontology that was named in his honor (i.e., Billy Pennel Research Award). As a newly minted periodontal graduate, I was preparing for my boards when Peter Fedi 6 guided me to understand what I needed to do to be successful and when I took my oral examination, my erudite and compassionate examiner (and later my boss at the ABP) was Gerry Bowers 7. Then there have been all of the residents who have finished the program since my arrival at OSU from whom I have learned so much. Perhaps one of the greatest influences on my life (and on the lives of dentists and patients) has been Robert T. Ferris 8. Bob was the first student to graduate from OSU with both a periodontal certificate and a PhD in immunology and since that time he has been a constant success in dentistry and life. Since the first day I met him as a young faculty member at the University of Florida, I have been influenced by his consistent, positive, generous, caring and scholarly attitude. For all the ways that Bob Ferris has successfully rhymed throughout five decades of practice, the faculty in the Division of Periodontology wish to honor him with the OSU Periodontal Achievement Award for 2014. You can’t go far in this worldwide community of periodontists without being invited to our very own OSU periodontal programs, the oldest in the country, celebrates 65 years of active presence. 65 years of being on the cutting edge of periodontal science. With all the above thoughts in my mind, I am looking forward to seeing again our alumni at the upcoming AAP meeting and I would like to encourage both past and future graduates to carry on our tradition of excellence.

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Dear Alumni and Friends,

In the two years since I last had the chance to communicate with you through the Cutting Edge, the Program has celebrated quite a few events and undergone positive changes.

Starting with the changes, Dean Patrick Lloyd approved this past June a new mechanism for the support of our periodontal residents. Dean Lloyd’s decision, whose positive impact will surely be felt in the years to come, reverses in part the loss of stipends and tuition waivers that had occurred in 2010. I consider this new circumstance a very timely and delightful present for the 65th Anniversary of our Program. This new paradigm makes the Program far more competitive from a financial/tuition aspect and will enhance our ability to recruit top quality applicants. This positive change would likely not have happened without the efforts and support of Dr. John Walters, who this year took over the position of Associate Dean for Graduate studies at the College, and Dr. Angelo Mariotti. Dean Lloyd’s sincere interest in having a strong periodontal graduate program is unmistakably evident in his approval of increased support for our residents. I very much look forward to the rewards this enhanced level of support will bring to the Program and to the College.

In late May of last year, we celebrated the graduation of the class of 2013. Dr. Alexandra Tsigarida, our 2012-2013 Chief Resident, continues her periodontal career as faculty at Temple University, in Philadelphia. Dr. Suzanne Delima is in private practice in Cincinnati. Dr. Mariana Gil-Escalante is back in her native Costa Rica, where she joined her father’s private practice. Dr. Hsiu-Wan Meng temporarily returned to her native Taiwan, where she is in private practice, and plans to return to the US in the near future. All of our 2013 graduates successfully defended their MS thesis and were awarded the MS degree along with their specialty certificate. Congratulations to the class of 2013!

In early June of this year, we celebrated the graduation of the class of 2014. Dr. Munirah Burashed returned to her native Kuwait where she will combine clinical periodontal practice in the public sector and part-time teaching at the Kuwait University Faculty of Dentistry; Dr. Ming Chien returned to his native Taiwan and will be pursuing private practice; Dr. Matthew Lemke is back in Cleveland and pursuing private practice; and Dr. Rachana Hegde, our 2013-2014 Chief Resident, will continue her career as full-time periodontal faculty at the College of Dental Medicine, Roseman University, in South Jordan, Utah. Our 2014 graduates successfully defended their MS thesis and were awarded the MS degree along with their specialty certificate. Congratulations to the class of 2014!
Since our last communication, Drs. Connie Lee ('12), Holly McKnight ('12), Hsiu-Wan Meng ('13), Samir Shah ('12), Alexandra Tsigarida ('13), and Ioanna Tsolaki ('12) successfully completed the examination process of the American Board of Periodontology (ABP) and attained ABP Diplomate status! Other notable achievements by our residents and alumni include: Dr. Samir Shah won the 2012 Balint Orban Memorial Competition (Basic Science category), at the AAP meeting in Los Angeles; Dr. Pin-Chuang “Patrick” Lai (class of 2015) was a finalist at the 2013 Midwest Society of Periodontology Graduate Student Research Forum, in Chicago; Dr. Alexandra Tsigarida won the 2013 Best Poster Presentation Award at the annual Academy of Osseointegration meeting in Tampa; Dr. Rachana Hegde ('14) was selected to present her research as a finalist for the Balint Orban Memorial Competition, at the 2014 AAP meeting in San Francisco. These successes underscore the efforts of our residents and their faculty mentors in pursuing academic excellence. Congratulations!!

During the same period, alumni supported the Program in different ways, besides making financial contributions to the various funds that benefit resident and faculty activities. Dr. Paul (Pao-ying) Lin ('91) and Dr. Jeffrey Wessel ('07) visited the College and lectured to our residents and faculty, while Drs. Jessica Stilley ('08) and Jeffrey Wessel volunteered their time by coming to Columbus and participating in the candidate interview process. The residents and I appreciate your continued support of the Program and we look forward to having many more of you participate in such activities.

I hope to see all of you in the near future.

With my warmest regards,

Dimitris Tatakis

In the meantime, we welcomed the following new members of our Buckeye Periodontal family: Dr. Lamees Alssum (King Saud University College of Dentistry; Riyadh, Saudi Arabia), class of 2016; Dr. Guo-Liang “Ike” Cheng (National Defense Medical Center School of Dentistry; Taipei, Taiwan), class of 2017; Dr. Ross Gordon (OSU College of Dentistry), class of 2017; Dr. Urvashi Nighojkar (Bharati Vidyapeeth Deemed University Dental College; Pune, India), class of 2017; Dr. Khaled Al-Tabtbaei (Kuwait University Faculty of Dentistry; Kuwait), class of 2016; Dr. Monica Gibson (Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences; Bangalore, India), class of 2016; Dr. Brian Roy (University of Detroit Mercy School of Dentistry, Detroit, Michigan), class of 2016; and Dr. Allan Wattimena (University of Minnesota School of Dentistry), class of 2017.
Our predoctoral program continues to offer high-quality periodontal education to dental students. Our students have demonstrated the ability to conduct and accurately record the findings of a comprehensive periodontal examination, arrive at a diagnosis, establish a prognosis, and formulate a treatment plan which is integrated with the patient’s other dental needs. In addition, we offer a periodontal surgical elective course for qualified students after their third year. Students continue to perform well on National Board and Regional Board examinations. All periodontal faculty members are dedicated to student success. A new clinical structure in the pre-doctoral clinics will be arranged into 8 smaller vertically integrated group practices next year. The vertically integrated group practices will have a total of 8 clinics with 12 to 14 of the 3rd and 4th year students in each clinic.

Beginning in July 2015, Dr. Yun Wang will join our division as a clinical track Assistant Professor. Dr. Wang is currently a 3rd year resident in the advanced education program in periodontology at the University of Southern California. She obtained her dental degree from Peking University, Beijing, China in 1999. She then attended and graduated in 2007 from the Michigan State University with a Ph.D. in Cellular and Molecular Physiology. She will be involved in most of the clinical teaching in the pre-doctoral clinics. Each year, three awards for excellence in periodontics are given to graduating dental students and presented at the College of Dentistry Convocation ceremony. For the class of 2014, Dr. Ross Gordon received the American Academy of Periodontology Dental Student Award for Achievement in Periodontology, Dr. Joel Richards received the Quintessence Award for Clinical Achievement in Periodontics, and Dr. Lee Hartzler received the Northeastern Society of Periodontists Senior Student Award.

In order to foster an interest in the specialty of Periodontology among predoctoral dental students, we recently established a periodontal interest group. We currently have 40 dental students, including the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th year students, enrolled in this group. The interest group has met 4 times this year. During the meeting, students were introduced to current advances in Periodontology, recent developments in periodontal technology, decision making in periodontics, and why to pursue specialized training in periodontics.

I would like to thank the periodontal residents and all the full-time and part-time faculty members, especially Drs. Claman and Mariotti, for their devotion and dedication to strengthen the predoctoral periodontal educational program.
Recent Awards to Faculty and Students

Awards 2013-2014 Academic Year

**Dr. John Walters** was elected as the new Associate Dean for Graduate Studies at the OSU College of Dentistry.

**Dr. Binnaz Leblebicioglu** received the 2013 Postle Teaching Award, OSU and the 2014 Stazen Senior Faculty Award, OSU.

**Dr. Hua Hong (Ben) Chien** received the 2013 ‘Periodontal Educator Award, American Academy of Periodontology.

Achievements

**Congratulations to our New Diplomates**

Dr. Connie Lee  
Dr. Holly McKnight  
Dr. Samir Shah  
Dr. Ioanna Tsolaki  
Dr. Hsiu-Wan Meng  
Dr. Alexandra Tsigarida
2014 Periodontal Alumni Achievement Award
Robert T Ferris, DDS, PhD

The faculty of the Division of Periodontology are honored to present Dr. Robert T. Ferris ('65, '67) with the 2014 Periodontal Achievement Award. Dr. Ferris was the first student to graduate from OSU with both a certificate in periodontology and a PhD in immunology. The article below captures some of the successes of Bob and is reprinted from the ADANews of November, 2013.

It started with a simple job shadow.

Dr. Robert T. Ferris spent the summers of his youth following around his uncle, Dr. Alfred Ferris, in his Springfield, Mass., dental practice. He watched him treat and interact with patients and hobnob with local and state dignitaries who passed through town.

"The thing that stuck out more than the dental treatments was the kind of relationships he had with patients. They weren't just customers; they were friends," said Dr. Ferris, 76. "What a wonderful thing, to have people trust you so much."

The experience sparked a passion in Dr. Ferris and launched a more than 50-year career in dentistry that has yet to expire. It's been a career with many pit stops along the way, taking Dr. Ferris to dental laboratories, the U.S. Navy, periodontics, academia and leadership in organized dentistry.

Dr. Ferris will make another pit stop at the House of Delegates meeting at ADA Annual Session when he receives the ADA Distinguished Service Award for 2013. Presented annually, the DSA is the highest honor conferred by the Board of Trustees.

Dr. Ferris said he was "absolutely stunned" to hear he was the DSA recipient this year, not believing it was ADA President Robert Faiella calling to notify him of the honor.

"I know so many deserving people who have made major contributions to the profession, that it would take an hour just to list them," Dr. Ferris said. "At first, I considered the possibility that this was a practical joke and that one of my friends was impersonating Bob Faiella. Seriously. When I realized that it was the real thing, I wanted to tell my daughter and my son, but I didn't because it would have been unseemly. So I sat back and remembered all of the colleagues and friends who opened doors for me and made this possible."

Dr. Ferris attended dental school at Emory University and graduated in 1961. He signed up for the U.S. Navy Reserve in 1960 and was commissioned as a lieutenant in the U.S. Navy Dental Corps. Dr. Ferris was stationed at Oceana Naval Air Station in Virginia Beach, Va., for two years while he was a general dentist for enlisted and Navy personnel.

He fostered an interest in periodontics and received a master's degree in the field from Ohio State University in 1965. Following an internship in oral surgery, Dr. Ferris received a Ph.D. in immunology from Ohio State. He said his natural inclination was to continue in academic dentistry, which he did at Case Western Reserve in Cleveland, serving in the microbiology department in the medical school and as chair of periodontics department in the dental school until 1971.

That was the year Dr. Ferris opened a solo periodontics practice in Altamonte Springs, Fla. In 1976, he assumed a position as a clinical professor of periodontics at the University of Florida College of Dentistry.

"For a long time I've been able to walk both sides of the street in academic dentistry and clinical practice," Dr. Ferris said. "There's an enormous benefit in being able to do both. A private practice can be very rewarding and fulfilling, but it puts you in what I call a cottage mentality because dentistry can be so rewarding it becomes habituating. But being part time in academics all those years kept up my views of what was happening in the profession: the new research, the new clinical tools. So I always felt like I had the best of both worlds."

Dr. Ferris eventually added a third tier of interest: organized dentistry. His résumé includes a long list of appoint-
ments and leadership positions, including: liaison for the Florida Dental Association to the Florida State Board of Dentistry; two appointments by two governors from opposing political parties to the Florida State Board of Dentistry; president of the American Association of Dental Examiners; president of the Florida Dental Association; president of the American Academy of Periodontology; director and chair of the American Board of Periodontology; and ADA delegate.

"Because of all of this, he's very knowledgeable; not only about a great many of the issues that affect dentistry but he also has an innate knowledge of how to play in political circles, which is a whole different game," said Dr. S. Timothy Rose, past ADA president, who's known Dr. Ferris since dental school. "He is also very visionary. He can not only look at what may be coming up on the horizon and predict where we're going to be but he has the ability to sit down with people from different perspectives and come to some common agreement to what it all means."

Dr. Ferris was elected 2nd vice president of the ADA in 2004 and served as 1st vice president from 2005-06. When asked if he would describe himself as ambitious, Dr. Ferris pointedly said no.

"Virtually every time one of these opportunities arose, some people persuaded me that I should do it," Dr. Ferris said. "They always pointed out that if I didn't, someone else would fill in that spot, and they just had more confidence in me. When they said they had confidence in me, it was a boost to the ego. I would think, 'Maybe I can do that job.'"

Dr. Ferris is now a minimal participant in organized dentistry, preferring to mentor up-and-coming leaders within the profession. Dr. Larry Nissen, a colleague of more than 20 years, said Dr. Ferris's devotion to dentistry is unparalleled.

"Not only has he served, he has also mentored many inexperienced volunteers, coaching and encouraging them throughout their careers. Bob's extensive knowledge and his ability to assimilate this knowledge into easily understandable conversation is a very unique characteristic of him," Dr. Nissen said. "He is always available to advise, counsel or just listen, whatever the situation may require. Our profession needs more people like Bob Ferris, and hopefully this recognition of him will remind us of the responsibility each of us has to our profession and our colleagues."

Dr. Ferris has not only impressed his friends and colleagues with his leadership skills, he's charmed them with his humor and personality.

"Dr. Ferris has a bright sense of humor and he embodies the idea of taking his responsibilities seriously, without taking himself too seriously," said Dr. Alan Friedel, who served in various leadership roles alongside Dr. Ferris. "Bob has worked hard over the years to maintain a consistently high standard of care for his patients; never forgetting that the root of the word doctor is teacher. He is a highly ethical man who can be forgiving and has always shown respect to all others, especially to those who were his political adversaries. He remains generous with his time, generous in sharing his gifts both intellectual and financial and is the very model of what a true professional should be. I am proud to call him my friend."

Dr. Ferris has certainly been generous to dentistry. He donated $1 million in 2006 to benefit both the Florida Dental Health Foundation and the American Academy of Periodontology Foundation. Both foundations were partner organizations of a national campaign to secure the future of dental education.

"I think it's important for everyone in the dental family to understand the pressing needs of the dental education system in our country," Dr. Ferris said at the time. "I hope that this gift will encourage people to ask questions, identify needs in education and make their legacy gift to a dental education project that is important to them."
2013 Volpe Prize Competition

Dr. Alexandra Tsigarida receiving her prize from Dr. Anthony Volpe

Drs. Ming Chien, Munirah Burashed, Purnima Kumar and Suzanne Delima

Dean Patrick Lloyd and Dr. Anthony Volpe

Drs. Dimitris Tatakis and Anthony Volpe

Contestants with Dr. Anthony Volpe
2013 Periodontal Recognition Awards

Periodontal graduating Class of 2013 with faculty and other residents.
Drs. Angelo Mariotti, Dimitra Sakellari and Dimitris Tatakis.

Dr. Angelo Mariotti at the Buckeye Reception.

OSU Perio Alumni Dinner
Congratulations to Dr. John Walters as the new Associate Dean for Graduate Studies

Dr. John Walters cutting his cake!
Farewell to Dr. James Murphy

Dr. James Murphy, Dr. John Walters, other faculty and guests.

Dr. Angelo Mariotti and Dr. James Murphy.
2014 Periodontal Recognition Awards

Graduating Class of 2014 (Drs. Lemke, Burashed, Hegde and Chien) with Dr. Dimitris Tatakis.

Faculty with graduating Class of 2014.
2014 Farewell Dinners

At the home of Dr. Leblebicioglu

At the home of Dr. Tatakis
2014 New Graduate Students Reception

Dr. Angelo Mariotti (Division Chair), Dr. Ross Gordon, Dr. Guo-Liang (Ike) Cheng, Dr. Allan Wattimena, Dr. Urvashi Nighojkar (New G1 class) and Dr. Dimitrios Malamis (Chief Resident).

Drs. Christopher Ludden, Lewis Claman and Brian Roy.

Associate Dean Dr. John Walters.
2014 Interviews of Resident Candidates

Current first and second year residents.

Third Annual Tie Ping Pong Tournament!
2014 Division ‘Welcome’ Picnic

Dr. Guo-Liang (Ike) Cheng, Dr. Ross Gordon, Dr. Urvashi Nighojkar, Dr. Allan Wattimena and Dr. Dimitris Tatakis

Visiting Professor Dr. Andrea Pilloni with Dr. Angelo Mariotti.

Drs. Christopher Ludden, Nicolas Robitaille, Dimitrios Malamis and Allan Wattimena.

Dr. and Dr. Walters, Dr. and Dr. Tatakis!
Some of the current residents: Drs. Nicolas Robitaille, Urvashi Nighojkar, Ross Gordong, Khaled Altabtbaei, Brian Roy, Dimitrios Malamis, Monica Prasad Gibson, Guo-Liang “Ike” Cheng, and Allan Wattimena.

Happy Hour Thursday: Ms. Laura McCallister with Dr. Nicolas Robitaille

Ohio Dental Association Meeting
F. William Brumfield (Bill) was an amazing person! He had a distinguished career at the Ohio State University College of Dentistry and in the US Air Force Reserve. He was dedicated to his family. Everyone loved him.

Dr. Brumfield, age 76, passed away at his home on October 21, 2012 after a courageous 4-1/2 year battle with pancreatic cancer. Memorial Services, with military honors, were held on Friday, October 26, 2012 at All Saints Lutheran Church in Worthington, Ohio.

He was born to Harry and Vivian Brumfield on September 19, 1936 in Toledo, OH. Dr. Brumfield held a Bachelor of Science degree in Pre-Dentistry and Business from The Ohio State University, where he also received a Doctor of Dental Surgery in 1961 and completed advanced training in Periodontology in 1985.

Bill was a dedicated teacher at The Ohio State University College of Dentistry from 1966 until 2005, receiving The Ohio State University Teaching Excellence Award in 1989. As a highly respected and well-liked colleague, he was inducted into Omicron Kappa Upsilon National Dental Honor Society, Theta Chapter, in 2006 and became an honorary member of Sigma Phi Alpha (Dental Hygiene) in 1987. His dedication to the College extended to a number of committees, including the Post College Assembly Committee, where he served from 1973-1978, the Faculty Council, 1981-1983, and the Dean’s Search Committee, 1990-1991. The Board of Trustees of The Ohio State University recently honored him with a Resolution in Memoriam (January 2013).

Bill maintained a part-time dental practice from 1966 to 1983 and a part-time practice limited to periodontics from 1985 to 1992. After retiring as a full-time faculty in 1991, as an emeritus faculty, he continued to teach (50%) at Ohio State until 2005 and taught part-time Columbus State.

Dr. Brumfield also served his country for more than 30 years, first in the United States Air Force Dental Corps and then in the Ohio National Guard, retiring as a full Colonel in 1996, a very rare achievement for a dentist. He received the Air Force Meritorious Service Award and an Air Force Commendation Medal in 1986.

Dr. Brumfield was a member of the American Academy of Periodontology, the Columbus Academy of Periodontology, where he served as President in 1993, the American Dental Association, and the Ohio Dental Association. He held a number of offices in the Columbus Dental Veterans, including President from 1981-1982.

He is survived by his wife of 40 years, Paula, children: William H. (Jodell) Brumfield, Timothy E. Brumfield, DeAnne E. Brumfield, Stephanie L. O’Harra and Elizabeth A. (John) Stanton, 15 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. His friends and family described Bill as “the finest man you’d ever meet”.

On a personal note, Bill was my close friend and colleague from the day I became a graduate student at Ohio State in 1972 until he retired in 2005. Regardless of what was asked of him, Bill was always optimistic, humble and appreciative. He would place a positive spin on any circumstance. There was no task that he would turn down. In 1983, as a periodontal faculty, but without a certificate in Periodontics, Dr. John Horton offered him the unique opportunity to complete advanced training, while still remaining as a full time faculty at the College. As an eternal optimist, Bill enthusiastically embraced the challenge, becoming close to all of the graduate students who were in training at the time (he became one of them). He continued to teach full time, which was no small task! Despite some medical issues during the program, Bill completed his training on schedule and continued his successful career. I will always remember Bill for his warmth, gentle nature, honesty and integrity.

Respectfully submitted,

Lewis J. Claman
Honor Roll of Giving

Gifts to the Division of Periodontology can be conferred to the following funds:

**Endowed Chair for Periodontology:** To help ensure the long-term health and stability of the Division of Periodontology at The OSU College of Dentistry, alumni and friends of the division have established a campaign to raise $1.5 million to create an Endowed Chair in Periodontology. For the division to not only retain outstanding faculty, but to also recruit new faculty to fill the open positions today and in the future, it must distinguish itself even further from the other periodontal programs across the country. One of the best ways to do this is through the establishment of an endowed chair. For more information on what an endowed chair is and does or to talk about your interest in supporting this campaign, please contact Ted Backus, Senior Director of Development, at (614) 292-9307.

**The George R. App Periodontal Endowment Fund:** Interest from the Endowment is used to support graduate student education and development with special interest in providing funds for travel to meetings by The Ohio State University periodontal graduate students.

**Periodontal Research and Training Fund:** This fund is used to support a wide variety of periodontal activities by the Division of Periodontology in the College of Dentistry. More specifically this fund is used for but not limited to the purchase equipment for the graduate program, support of alumni activities (e.g. the annual AAP Buckeye Reception, CE courses, mailings, etc.), endowment of graduate research projects, purchase of food for graduate student activities, etc.

**The Lewis Claman Periodontal Endowment Fund:** Interest from the Endowment will be used to support an award for OSU dental students who exhibit clinical excellence in periodontics. Special consideration will be given to students who want to choose a career in academic periodontics.

It’s Noteworthy

The Cutting Edge is available electronically! If you would like to receive it by email, please email us at osugradperio@osu.edu and let us know where you would like it delivered. It can also be accessed on the web:

We encourage all alumni of our program to visit The Division of Periodontology on the OSU College of Dentistry Website. The website has been recently updated and is very detailed.

1. The web address of the college is http://dent.osu.edu
2. Click on Academic Sections
3. Click on Periodontology and you will be on Periodontal Homepage

You can then navigate to the Division of Periodontology’s History, Faculty, Staff, Predoctoral Program, Postdoctoral Program, Research, Service, Continuing Education, Alumni, and Patients.

To access current or past Cutting Edge issues:
1. Click on alumni
2. Click on The Cutting Edge
3. Click on any issue to open or download

The direct Web address for the Cutting Edge is: http://dent.osu.edu/perio/alumni_the_cutting_edge.php