From the Editor

As 2004 came to a close and we welcome 2005, the residents get ready for new challenges and rewards. We have just welcomed the four new first year residents: Renita Burrell and Jeff Wessel from the University of Michigan, Chun-Han Chou from the University of North Carolina and Samer Khoury from the University of Texas. By now they have all figured out which side of the 15c is sharp and can take a pretty good set of pictures. The second year residents have progressed into being able to do more than one procedure per half day and have found the excitement of research and CPC presentations. The third year residents have moved onto looking forward to a life past 24+ years of school, and are considering jobs, practices and paying off loans.

A Note from the Chair

Angelo Mariotti, DDS, PhD

Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow

Yesterday, all my troubles seemed so far away
Now it looks as though they're here to stay
Oh, I believe in yesterday.

Yesterday by Lennon and McCartney

For over 55 years, Ohio State University Periodontology has had a long and proud tradition in research, service and education of both dental students and residents. Wilson, Walton, App, Conroy, Ebel, Solt, Horton and Kupp are a few of the names that have led in the periodontal development of this great program.

Cont. on Page 2

Hope to see you at the upcoming meetings as seen on Page 11
Without the contribution of these gentlemen (and many others), OSU’s Periodontology would not be what it is today – a world leader in periodontics. Despite some significant changes recently, our research, service and educational programs remain strong at this time. In some areas of the country periodontal departments have problems hiring periodontally qualified faculty, but we have hired three new, quality periodontists in the past two years. Binnaz Leblebicioglu, who received her PhD and certificate from OSU, has returned to us after teaching at Case Western and in Turkey. Swati Rawal received her periodontal certificate from our program and is working with Lew Claman and Dave Messick (our other new part-time faculty member) to improve our predoctoral clinical teaching program. John Walters and Dimitris Tatakis continue to be productive, enthusiastic faculty who push for excellence in both the clinical and research activity of our residents. Add into this mix, Alger, Brumfield, Coatoam, Coffelt, Murphy, Palermo, Stehle and Tomasi and you have a world class faculty. I am proud of our faculty and their many accomplishments.

As you know, the direction of periodontology at OSU has been and will continue to be in the hands of the Chair. Since the periodontal Chair plays such a pivotal role, it is important that the OSU periodontal community begin to prepare for the next leader upon my retirement. To attract the best and brightest in a dwindling field of periodontal academicians to OSU (1 of 83 periodontal training programs); the College of Dentistry will be required to promise more than the opportunity to watch the Buckeye football team.

To enhance the chances of bringing a person of substance will require the College to establish an Endowed Chair in Periodontology. To endow a Chair at OSU will require 1.5 million dollars and these dollars will come primarily from friends and alumni. To be sure, this is not an inconsequential sum, yet alumni from Endodontics (which has endowed a Chair and a Professorship) and Orthodontics (which is well on the way to endowing a Chair) have made substantial commitments.

Dental academics is extremely fluid and the current open periodontal Chair positions (at last count 7) may not be a problem in the future; however, the ability to find a qualified periodontal leader will continue to be a crisis issue leading some institutions to either indefinitely leave the position open (for example, the University of Washington) or even worse, to fill the position with an unqualified candidate. Therefore, your help will be required to endow a Chair in periodontology if OSU is to remain a strong and viable periodontal program in the future. Our past has been bright and today we are thriving, but without your help the viability of academic periodontology in Columbus will be an enigma in the future. What will bring the next Chairperson to head periodontology at OSU? Only you can answer that question.
Dear Alumni and Friends,

It was great seeing many of you at the AAP Meeting in Orlando. For those of you who did not make it to the East Coast house of Mickey, I am thrilled to share with you the news that our chief resident, Dr. Purnima Kumar, won the Balint Orban Research competition in the Clinical Sciences. Purnima presented and defended, in exemplary manner, her research on novel bacterial species associated with periodontitis and periodontal health. This year, 42 abstracts had been submitted to the competition, and 8 of them (4 basic sciences and 4 clinical sciences) were selected as finalists for the oral competition. For those of us who were fortunate to attend the competition, it was clear why Purnima won the clinical science award. We are very proud of this accomplishment of hers and we look forward to many more.

Our four 2003-2004 third year residents successfully completed their clinical and M.S. thesis requirements this past June and have left the program, sort of. Dr. Jad Elkhoury, whose thesis research was on clinical parameters associated with success and failure of single tooth implants, is in private practice in Sacramento, California. This has not stopped Jad from already coming back to visit Ohio. Our former chief resident, Dr. Scott Lightfoot is in private practice in Dayton, Ohio. His research involved a Delphi survey on Periodontists’ criteria of successful periodontal therapy. Rumor has it that Scott will join the Section as part-time faculty, starting this coming quarter (Winter 2005). Dr. Natasha May is in private practice in Minneapolis, Minnesota and has published the first part of her thesis on alveolar bone loss in a susceptible animal model. Natasha also has plans for part-time teaching. Dr. Swati Rawal, whose research included molecular aspects of ciprofloxacin accumulation by gingival fibroblasts, has joined the faculty of the Section of Periodontology at OSU as a full-time Clinical Assistant Professor. We are fortunate to have her stay with us. Swati and Scott were part of the interviewing teams for next year's class, and, according to the feedback we received from the candidates, having some of our most recent alumni devoting time and energy to support the program in this capacity was nothing but impressive. I believe that it made a difference in our ability to recruit and I thank them for their time and effort. I also want to thank the current residents, the faculty and the staff for their collective efforts during our interview sessions.
Voice of the Director – Cont.

Our current third year residents, Drs. Hamad Alzoman, Ehsan Rezvan, Purnima Kumar, and Matt Zavarella, are moving full-speed ahead towards completion of the research and clinical components of their program. Our second year group, Drs. Sam DeAngelo, William Cho and Randy Fitzgerald, is progressing nicely; they have already accumulated considerable clinical experience and their research is under way. In July the program welcomed four new first year residents: Drs. Renita Burrell (University of Michigan), Chun-Han Chou (University of North Carolina), Samer Khoury (University of Texas - Houston), and Jeffrey Wessel (University of Michigan). We are very pleased to have them join the Buckeye family.

An update on our staff: Ms. Cheryl Paynter is a new staff member. Cheryl came to us from the Vet School and has had long service with OSU. She is primarily assisting with the administrative aspects of the program. Ms. Electa Lee, our clinic supervisor, continuing her community service efforts, helped out with the oral health screenings conducted in conjunction with the Ohio Summer Special Olympics by participating in the Special Olympics Special Smiles program, held in Columbus in late June.

The residents and I greatly appreciate your continuing support of the program as we keep on receiving referrals for patients who cannot afford periodontal treatment in a private practice setting. Should you need to contact the clinic for a patient referral or any other reason, please call 614-292-4927. You can always reach me at tatakis.1@osu.edu or at 614-688-3417.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the Midwest Perio Society meeting in February.

Best wishes,

Dimitris Tatakis
At the just concluded American Academy of Periodontology Annual Meeting, a 2004 published paper, co-authored by Dr. Dimitris Tatakis received the inaugural American Academy of Periodontology Foundation E. Bud Tarrson Research Award in Oral Plastic Surgery. The award is for the best paper on clinical oral plastic surgery published in a peer-reviewed journal. The Tarrson Research Award was created to support and encourage periodontal research in oral plastic surgery. The article cited is: da Silva RC, Joly JC, de Lima AFM, Tatakis DN. Root coverage using the coronally positioned flap with or without a subepithelial connective tissue graft. J Periodontol 2004; 75:413-419

At the 2004 AAP Annual Meeting, Dr. Purnima Kumar, who is in her third year of the Advanced Education Program in Periodontics at The Ohio State University, was the winner of the Balint Orban Memorial prize for clinical research done during a periodontal residency. The competition has 2 categories: Basic Research and Clinical Research with 4 finalists in each category selected from 42 abstracts. Her abstract and presentation for the competition was entitled “Molecular Analysis of Uncultivated Bacteria in Periodontitis and Health”. Her mentors at The Ohio State University are Dr. Ann Griffin, Section of Pediatric Dentistry and Dr. Gene Leys, Section of Oral Biology.

Dr. Lewis Claman was a recipient of an Outstanding Instructor Award by the OSU College of Dentistry graduating Class of 2004.
HONOR ROLL OF GIVING

Listed below are descriptions of the four funds in which gifts to the Section can be conferred.

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 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 Section 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.

Center for Research in Periodontology: Periodontal research in the Section of Periodontology involves both basic science and clinical science research projects.

Solt Library: This Fund will be used to build a state of the art library for periodontal and dental information.

Ways You Can Help

Gifts of cash and stock have an immediate and direct impact on our ability to further our goals and achieve our objectives.

Pledges allow you to fulfill a commitment over a two or three year period and afford us the ability to plan and implement programs with confidence.

Gifts-in-Kind are artifacts, documents, equipment, services and other resources that we need to achieve our academic and programmatic goals.

Deferred or Planned Gifts give you the opportunity to support our goals in the context or your own long-term financial plans. These can take many forms, including life income gifts, charitable trusts and life insurance policies.
DONOR RECOGNITION

The college established a Donor Recognition program in September 1995 to recognize the generosity of our alumni and friends. The gift clubs recognize total cumulative giving beginning at a minimum of $5,000 to the college, including designations to any of the sections within the college. An annual program is held to acknowledge the donors with their names and or portraits (at appropriate level) being added to the plaques in the lobby of Postle Hall.

The University also has a major donor recognition group called the presidents club (PC). Donors are again designated with an annual gift of $2,500, again designated to any specific program, project, scholarship, etc. on campus. This means you may designate and send your gift to the College of Dentistry and receive PC recognition as well as college recognition. The opportunity to purchase two season football tickets and on-campus parking passes is available.

If you are interested in more information on any of the above, please contact Betty Farmer at 614/292-4655.

*The IRS has determined that acceptance of these benefits, which are optional, will affect the amount of the gift which is eligible for the charitable deduction.

COLLEGE OF DENTISTRY DONOR RECOGNITION PROGRAM

The college established the following cumulative gift clubs in September, 1995, to recognize the generosity of our alumni and friends.

Legacy Society: Recognizes those individuals who have made a provision for a planned gift to the college

Pacesetters: Recognizes cumulative gifts of $5,000 - $9,999

Founders: Recognizes cumulative gifts of $10,000 - $24,999

Associates: Recognizes cumulative gifts of $25,000 - $49,999

Ambassadors: Recognizes cumulative gifts of $50,000 - $99,999

Cumulative donations of $100,000 and greater are acknowledged in four levels within the Cornerstone Club.

Bainbridge Society: Recognizes cumulative contributions of $100,000 - $249,999

1890 Society: Recognized total gifts of $250,000 - $499,999

Emminger-Semans Society: Recognizes cumulative giving of $500,000 - $999,999

Second Century Society: Recognizes total gifts of $1,000,000 and up
PHOTO ALBUM

In each issue of The Cutting Edge, we will highlight a group of graduates of the Advanced Education Program in Periodontics at The Ohio State University College of Dentistry. In this issue we include graduates from the past three years. Dr. Angelo Mariotti, Chair and Dr. Dimitris Tatakis, Program Director are photographed with the graduating class of each year….

The Graduating Class of 2002

Drs. Tatakis, Haghighat, Wilson, Javadi and Mariotti

Currently, Dr. Kamran Haghighat is full time faculty with The University of Oregon, Portland, Dr. Ralph Wilson is in private practice in Scottsdale, Arizona and Dr. Hamed Javadi is in private practice in San Francisco, California.
Graduating Class of 2003

Drs. Mariotti, Taylor, Nguyen, Lavda, Chou, Chang and Tatakis

Currently, Dr. Ryan Taylor is in private practice in Sarasota, Florida, Dr. Hoang Nguyen is in private practice in Albuquerque, New Mexico, Dr. Maria Lavda is full time faculty at The University of Illinois, Chicago, Dr. James Chou is in private practice in Los Angeles, California and Dr. Elbert Chang is in private practice in Dayton, Ohio.
Graduating Class of 2004

Drs. Mariotti, Elkhoury, Rawal, May, Lightfoot and Tatakis

Currently, Dr. Jad Elkhoury is in private practice in Sacramento, California, Dr. Swati Rawal is full time faculty at The Ohio State University, Dr. Natasha May is in private practice in Minneapolis, Minnesota and Dr. Scott Lightfoot is in private practice in Dayton, Ohio.
UPCOMING EVENTS

*We hope to see you at the following upcoming meetings:*

2. The American Dental Education Association Meeting, Baltimore, MD, March 5 – 9, 2005.
5. The OSU Periodontal Research Day, date to be announced. This meeting will provide 6 hours of free CE to all participants.