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# MASO Journal

Autumn 2025

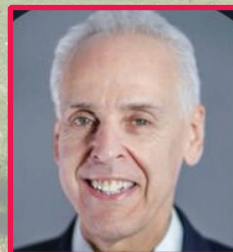
Middle Atlantic Society of Orthodontists



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# MASO Journal

## Middle Atlantic Society of Orthodontists

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E-mail is preferred for receipt of items submitted for publication in the MASO Journal. Articles and photos may be e-mailed directly to Dr. Normand Boucher at [maso@assnoffices.com](mailto:maso@assnoffices.com). If an item must be mailed, send it to Dr. Boucher at 333 W Lancaster Ave., Wayne, PA 19087-3904 or contact him by phone at 610.688.3355.

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### MISSION STATEMENT

The Middle Atlantic Society of Orthodontists, a constituent of the American Association of Orthodontists, shall promote ethical and quality orthodontic care while advocating and providing a voice for our members, components and educational institutions.



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dr. Sana Augustus

It has been a true honor and privilege to serve as your president this year.

In a time of rapid change—both nationally, globally, and within our profession—the importance of community and collaboration has never been more evident. The strength of MASO lies in our diversity and collective spirit: sharing knowledge, resources, and support to elevate one another and the field of orthodontics.

Throughout the year, we have listened closely to the needs and aspirations of our members and have worked diligently to implement meaningful initiatives with your priorities at the forefront. One example is ***Tiny Changes***, a forward-thinking sustainability program led by our own **Dr. Maddy Goodman**. Launched with resounding enthusiasm at the AAO in Philadelphia, this initiative reflects our shared commitment to environmental responsibility. It has already garnered strong support from members across several constituencies and received generous financial backing from multiple orthodontic companies.

In addition, we are finalizing a comprehensive **strategic plan** that will guide the ongoing evolution of MASO's operations and member services. This process has allowed us to reflect deeply

on our mission, strengthen our organizational structure, and set a course for long-term success.

One of the standout highlights of the year was our **MASO Spring CE event** in March, which was nothing short of exceptional. The innovative format provided a dynamic platform for exploring a broad spectrum of topics related to aesthetics, both directly and tangentially connected to orthodontics. The enthusiastic feedback from attendees affirmed that we are moving in the right direction, offering education that is both interesting and relevant.

Looking ahead, we are thrilled to invite you to our **Annual Session in Washington, D.C.**, taking place September 26–27 at the historic Mayflower Hotel. This year's theme, *Trending Topics in Orthodontics*, will bring together a stellar lineup of speakers, engaging sessions, and valuable networking opportunities. New this year, we are also incorporating a community service component, reflecting our shared desire to make a meaningful difference in the lives of others.

As my term comes to an end, I am proud of what we have accomplished together and confident in MASO's future under the leadership of President-Elect **Dr. Paul Batastini**.

Thank you for your trust, your partnership, and for continually challenging MASO to strive for excellence. It has been a pleasure to lead, to learn, and to serve alongside all of you. ■



## TRUSTEE'S REPORT

Dr. Lawrence Wang

Our editor has asked me to answer one question in my first report: "How's it going as trustee?" I can assure you this question has popped up quite a bit in the past few months.

To date, I have attended a trustee orientation meeting at the AAO headquarters in St. Louis and had my first official BOT meeting in Philadelphia at the Annual Session. By the time the journal comes out, I will have attended my first board planning session in Utah in July and my second BOT meeting in St. Louis in August. Thus far, the best analogy that I can give is stepping into the role of MASO trustee for the American Association of Orthodontists has felt a lot like arriving on campus as a college freshman.

There's excitement, some nerves, and an overwhelming sense of possibility. But the learning curve is real. There's a lot to take in: understanding the structure of the association, the nuances of policy and bylaws, the legacy of ongoing initiatives, and the weight of the responsibility we carry for our members and profession. The pace is brisk, and the expectations are high. But my fellow trustees and AAO staff have been incredibly gracious and generous with their time, knowledge, and mentorship in helping me find my footing.

Just like any freshman, I've spent my early days listening intently and taking notes. At this early stage, I see my role as twofold: to listen and learn actively, while also offering a fresh set of eyes when appropriate. As senior trustees have told me, you start to identify the areas where you can bring value or have vision for in the future, and you build on this in the months and years ahead.

Speaking of the other trustees and trustees-at-large, sitting in a room with all of them reviewing the issues of the moment, you quickly realize that brilliant, passionate people surround you. People from around the U.S. and Canada from different demographics invested in the success of the AAO with a shared commitment to the profession, patients, and to each other. The discussions are thoughtful, the decision-making is strategic, and everyone around the table is clearly there for the right reasons. For this freshman, it is humbling and energizing to be part of such a dedicated group.

Now, of course, there have been challenges. No freshman year is without bumps. There is a definite adjustment to the time commitment, navigating the depth of the issues facing the profession, and balancing trustee duties with professional and personal responsibilities. As one senior trustee told me, the AAO is on your mind 365 days a year, one way or another. I

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fully embrace the chance to contribute, grow, and help shape the direction of our organization. It is both an honor and a challenge that I accept without reservation.

I invite those reading this article to accept this challenge as well. MASO and its leadership in the past, present, and future work hard to create an environment where emerging leaders are

encouraged, empowered, and equipped to make a meaningful impact. There are many opportunities within MASO and the AAO for volunteer leadership. It is very easy to take that first step, like I did 25 years ago. It was our current AAO President, my friend and mentor **Steve Siegel**, who helped me take that step. And I haven't looked back.

Thank you again to my MASO friends and colleagues for this incredible opportunity and the start of a fantastic journey. ■

**EDITORIAL****Dr. Normand Boucher**

## “Is there a Dentofacial Epidemic?”

We may have reached a societal tipping point where the convergence of airway, diet, breathing, and environmental factors is forcing the orthodontic profession to rethink facial growth and development. The traditional thinking behind malocclusions, which comprises crowding, constricted arch forms, excessive facial height, and maxillary and mandibular retrognathia, is being questioned by the non-orthodontic, non-dental scientific community. The recent release of the book titled *Jaws, The Story of a Hidden Epidemic*, by Dr. Kahn and Dr. Ehrlich provides a multidisciplinary view of the literature of facial growth and its impact on systemic health.

Are we dealing with an epidemic of related habits developed at an early age, which include mouth-breathing, mainly eating soft foods that require little chewing, altered sleep patterns, snoring, restless sleep due to excessive movement, all of which can lead to altered development of the jaws and a compromised airway? In a recent study of over 25,000 Brazilian children aged 3 to 9 years, 55% were mouth breathers. Remarkably, there has not been a coordinated effort to systematically gather data on the frequency of malocclusion, mouth breathing, and sleep disturbances.

This book is a collaboration between a dental professional and an environmental scientist and expert in human evolution. Dr. Ehrlich points out that the changes in modern civilization's jaw growth are nearly absent in the evolutionary and historical record. He notes that our hunter-gatherer ancestors had more developed jaws with good alignment of the teeth, including third molars. He quotes anthropologist

Clark Larson, who claims that “there has been a dramatic reduction in the size of the face and jaws whenever humans have made the transition from foraging to farming. This suggests that the etiology of this supposed dento-facial epidemic is not genetic but due to changes in our culture. It also indicates that with proper attention to our children's diet, eating habits, breathing patterns, and orthopedic jaw growth treatment strategies, many aspects of this epidemic could be avoided.

Dr. Paul Ehrlich, a respected archaeologist/anthropologist, questions the rationale and treatment objectives of conventional orthodontics. He cites the archaeological and anthropological literature to develop an argument that the time, effort, and expense of orthodontic treatment could more appropriately be focused on diet, chewing methods, posture, and breathing. It is noteworthy that his argument aligns to some degree with the explosion of dento-skeletal expansion by orthodontist, increased use of functional appliances, a trend towards non-extraction treatment more very early treatment, the concept of airway orthodontics, increased use of myofunctional therapists, and a closer working relationship of the orthodontist with ENT and allergy specialists.

Since I suspect that this book will reach a broad lay audience, it behooves the orthodontist to read it carefully and be prepared to take a position on these extreme views and how they relate to contemporary orthodontic treatment. ■

Editorials represent the opinions of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Middle Atlantic Society of Orthodontists or the American Association of Orthodontists.



## ***Congratulations to Dr. Chun-Hsi Hung - MASO Lifetime Award Recipient for 2024***

*This Award is given to a MASO member who, in the opinion of the MASO Board of Directors, has made significant contributions to his or her community of patients, has served with distinction as a member of the American Association of Orthodontists at the national, constituent and/or component level, has personally contributed to the betterment of the specialty of orthodontics, has taught in a graduate or undergraduate orthodontic program during his or her professional career and/or been associated with orthodontic research or been an orthodontic staff member or consultant on a hospital staff.*

## **2024 LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

### **Dr. Chun-Hsi Chung**



**Chun-Hsi Chung, DMD, MS,** Professor, Chauncey M.F. Egel Endowed Chair, and Director, Postdoctoral Orthodontic Program Department of Orthodontics, University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine, is the recipient of the 2024 MASO Lifetime Achievement Award. Named the recipient in 2024 to be awarded at the Annual Session in the

US Virgin Islands, Dr. Chung was scheduled to deliver a presentation at the 55th SIDO International Congress in Florence, Italy, during the same time. MASO agreed to present this prestigious award to him during the MASO Spring CE in Bethesda, MD on March 7, 2025.

Dr Chung's association with the University of PA began in the 1980s. He received his DMD from the university in 1986, became a Clinical Instructor, Department of Restorative Dentistry in 1989, then received an Orthodontic Certificate in Postdoctoral Orthodontics, and competed an National Institute of Health Postdoctoral Fellowship at the University.

One appointment led to another. In 2010, he was named Director of the Postdoctoral Orthodontic Program. Interim Chair in 2011, followed by Chair in 2012, and 2013,



*Dr. Chun-Hsi Chung Receiving the Lifetime Achievement Award from Dr. Normand Boucher and Dr. Paul Batastini.*

the Chauncey M.F. Egel Endowed Chair, Department of Orthodontics, University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine. In 2017, he was appointed as the Director of the Postdoctoral Orthodontic Program.

Dr.Chung has been active in many organizations, including as President of The American Board of Orthodontics. He is presently an Examiner and Consultant with the ABO. In 2018, he served the AAO as the Doctors' Scientific Program Co-Chair for the Annual Meeting in Washington, DC, and then in 2022 as the Doctors' Scientific Program Co-Chair for the AAO Annual Meeting in Miami, FL. He presently serves as Commission Consultant for the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA).

Dr. Chung is the recipient of numerous awards and holds memberships in numerous local, national, and international associations. He is a member of the Edward H. Angle Society of Orthodontists.

He is a frequent national and international lecturer, and has authored more than 100 peer-reviewed papers, book chapters, and abstracts.

MASO congratulates Dr Chung on this latest honor in a long line of accomplishments! ■



*Dr, Chun-HsiChung recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award in Bethesda.*



## Congratulations to Dr. Madeleine Goodman- 2025 Gerard A. Devlin Award Recipient

Congratulations to Dr. Madeleine “Maddy” Goodman, recipient of the 2025 Gerard A. Devlin Award from MASO. The Devlin Award, MASO’s highest recognition, is presented annually to one of its members in recognition of his or her outstanding contributions to MASO and the specialty of orthodontics.

### 2025 GERARD A. DEVLIN AWARD Dr. Madeleine Goodman



When **Dr. Madeleine Goodman** became President of MASO in 2021-2022, she put into place her vision of a more sustainable workplace. MASO’s first Sustainability Committee was formed with her, **Dr. Norman Boucher** and **Dr. Sana Augustus** serving as members. At its March 2022 meeting, the MASO Board approved that MASO create a one-year plastics-free

pledge program proposed by the Sustainability Committee. The mission of the program was to reduce waste in the office by replacing plastic bags with paper bags. Over the next two years 86 MASO members signed the pledge and were sent their first 50 paper bags and were listed on the MASO website. The budgetary implication was \$2,000.

In late 2024, the Board approved another initiative, known as *Tiny Changes Recycling Program*, the first and only comprehensive orthodontic recycling program, where members pledged to minimize their utilization of single-use plastics, to seek reusable alternatives when possible and utilize recycling resources as best fits their practice. To date, 333 orthodontic offices and residencies across the US have signed the pledge and joined the program, with 114 of these within MASO. Soon this will be open to orthodontists in Canada as well. MASO pledged \$20,000 toward the development of the program, and additional fundraising

by Dr. Goodman has raised \$61,370 from 21 orthodontic offices and supplier companies. These funds are being used to offset the cost of the recycling boxes. For all the information on the *Tiny Changes Recycling Program*, visit the MASO website at [www.MASO.org](http://www.MASO.org).

Dr. Goodman is a graduate of Duke University with a BA in Classical Languages. She received her DMD in 2008 from the University of Pennsylvania, graduating first in her class. She earned her Certificate of Orthodontics from Tufts University, School of Dental Medicine.

She is owner of Harmony Pediatric Dentistry and Orthodontics in Bethesda, Maryland, which she started in 2020.

Maddy was elected to the MASO Board of Directors in 2015 and served as President from 2021-2022. She is a Diplomat of the American Board of Orthodontics, and she has served the AAO as a representative to the Council of New and Younger Members. She currently serves on the AAO Council on Orthodontic Practice, serving as Founder and Chair of the Sustainability Committee.

Dr. Goodman will be presented with the prestigious Devlin Award at the MASO Annual Session at the Mayflower Hotel in Washington, DC, at the MASO Annual Business/Membership meeting on Saturday, September 27 at 4:30 pm. We hope you can join us to celebrate Maddy’s accomplishments! ■





## AWARDS

### WILLIAM S. KRESS RESIDENT RESEARCH AWARD

#### Dr. Seo Hyun Park



**Dr. Seo Hyun Park** is the recipient of the 2025 William S. Kress Research Award for the most outstanding Research Thesis by a graduate resident within MASO's geographical area, as juried by the MASO Education/Research Committee. Her thesis is entitled *Volumetric and Linear Palatal Changes in Orthodontic Patients Treated with and without Extractions*.

She will receive a \$1,000 check and an award plaque. The Award will be presented during the MASO Membership/Business meeting at the MASO Annual Session, on Saturday, September 27 at 4:30 PM.

**Dr. Grace (Seo Hyun) Park** completed her postgraduate orthodontics studies at Rutgers School of Dental Medicine and is currently in private practice. During her studies at Rutgers, she recognized the importance of literature that serves as both a guide, and oftentimes an inspiration, in the practices of orthodontics. She also realized that as a resident, there is an opportunity to contribute to the profession by producing meaningful investigations and case reports. She is grateful to be able to practice in the field that brings transformative experience and in the field where her passion lies.

**Congratulations Dr. Park! ■**

## MEETINGS



### MASO 2025 Annual Session Promises to Deliver

**SEPTEMBER 25 - 27, 2025**

**THE MAYFLOWER HOTEL, WASHINGTON, DC**

#### ***“Trending Topics in Orthodontics”***

What a speaker line-up it is! Twenty-seven speakers over two days, covering **“Trending Topics in Orthodontics”** the aptly named theme of this Annual Session.

Kicking off the two-day event on Friday is MASO's own **Dr. Steve Siegel**, who was inducted as AAO President for 2025-26 during the AAO Annual Session in Philadelphia. Dr. Siegel and some of his AAO team members will provide MASO members with an exclusive update on AAO's projects and priorities. Following Dr. Siegel, **Dr. James Vaden**, well known as the longtime Course Director of TWEED, will opine on the challenges faced by our specialty and why these challenges are, in fact, opportunities. Don't miss these opening presentations!

The conference sessions are broken into *Clinical Sessions*, *Practice Management Sessions*, and *Team Sessions* for all.

Team and Practice Management presentations feature topics including proven techniques for efficient office operations, dealing with difficult people, mastering digital marketing, accumulating wealth, training your dream team, what's in store for practices in this century, elevating a high-performance team, chair-side direction for digitally guided orthodontics, and digitally designed braces, among others.

Clinical sessions include generating leads, mini-implants, treating TMD & orofacial pain, clear aligner therapy, the bi-dimensional technique, treatment for gummy smiles, 3D produced lingual appliance, airway development, and more.

The complete schedule for the 2025 Annual Session is on the conference website at [www.MASO2025.com](http://www.MASO2025.com). While

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## MEETINGS

you're on the website, visit the speaker page to view advance videos produced by some speakers and review the topics, their descriptions and objectives.

The website also includes important information about social and networking events of the Annual Session. Register on Thursday and enjoy a late afternoon Registration Reception. On Friday after sessions, attend the Capital Welcome Reception in the Exhibit Hall, sponsored by **Align Technology**. Saturday morning be an early riser and participate in the Fun Run/Walk at the National Mall, sponsored by **ID-Logical**. The closing session in the exhibit hall features a small reception and door prizes by exhibitors, then attend the MASO Member Business

meeting that follows where awards will be presented and new officers and directors will be elected.

Explore the beauty and the wonder of the historic Mayflower Hotel and the famous Tolson Restaurant, named after Clyde Tolson, J. Edgar Hoover's close associate and Assistant FBI Director. J. Edgar Hoover and Clyde Tolson were known to frequent The Mayflower Hotel, with Hoover reportedly having lunch there daily for 20 years.

Register for the MASO Annual Session by visiting the **Registration** page at [www.MASO2025.com](http://www.MASO2025.com), and make your hotel reservation on the **Hotel** page of the same website. Hope to see you there! ■





## 2025 MASO Spring CE Recap and Lifetime Achievement Award

The 2025 Spring CE program was held at the new (2022) Marriott Bethesda Downtown Hotel as part of Marriott International's new global headquarters campus in downtown Bethesda. Floor-to-ceiling windows provided city views and an abundance of natural light, and the modern lobby showcased mid-century detail and a grand staircase. The hotel itself got rave reviews from attendees, as did the stellar program line-up.

Comments from attendees included "I thought the meeting was worth the time spent. It was good as a review and also updated me on new techniques and tools available," and "Great venue and speakers."

The meeting drew 130 doctors and residents to hear presentations from Dr. Jamie Barden *Impact of Esthetics on Daily Life*; Dr. Maren Shaw *Botulinum Toxin Do's and Don'ts*; Dr. Janice Lee (NIH) *Orthognathic Surgery, Profile Analyses and Esthetics*; Dr. Nadine Almpani, NIH, *Prediction of Facial Growth and 3D Analysis of Rare Craniofacial Diseases*; and Dr. Kelly Bolden *Procedures to Enhance or Complement Orthodontic Treatment*.

The nearly 40 residents who attended represented Albert Einstein Medical Center, the University of Pennsylvania, Rutgers, Howard University, the University of Maryland and Medstar WHC.

After lunch, **Dr. Chun-Hsi Chung**, University of Pennsylvania Program Chair, was presented the Lifetime Achievement Award for 2024. Last year, the MASO Board of Directors voted to present the Lifetime Achievement Award to Dr. Chung during the annual membership meeting in St. Thomas, Virgin Islands. However, Dr. Chung was already committed to a meeting in Italy, so the decision was made to honor him at the Spring CE. Congratulations to Dr. Chung! (*Read more about this award on page 4.*) ■



University of Pennsylvania residents at the Spring MASO meeting in Bethesda Maryland.



MASO members at the Spring CE meeting in Bethesda



MASO President Dr. Sana Augustus addressing the audience at the Spring MASO CE, event in Bethesda.



U. of Maryland orthodontic residents and faculty during the MASO meeting in Bethesda MD

To access the full presentation of abstract listed below,  
please scan the QR code:



## Anterior Mandibular Crowding Correction Using Active Essix: A Case Report

**Tori Wallace**, *University of Maryland, Baltimore, MD*

**Steven Zinn**, *University of Maryland, Baltimore, MD*

**Justin Mack**, *University of Maryland, Baltimore, MD*

**Jose Bosio**, *University of Maryland School of Dentistry, Baltimore, MD*

**Abstract:** This case report discusses a 30-year-old female who returned to our orthodontic clinic ten years after initial debonding with a lower broken retainer and mandibular anterior dental relapse. Several treatment options were presented to the patient to either do nothing, fabricate a new retainer and maintain the current occlusion, or correct the occlusion with an active Essix. Patient selected to correct the occlusion with an active Essix. Due to the slight rotations, 0.1mm of IPR was performed on the mesial and distal of the lower left central and a dimple was placed on the mesial of the lower left central to correct the rotation. Full correction of the anterior crowding was achieved without the need for comprehensive orthodontic treatment.

## Asymmetric Lower Extraction for Correction of Lower Midline Discrepancy: A Case Report

**Anjali Patel**, *University of Maryland, School of Baltimore, Baltimore, MD*

**Christina Grace**, *University of Maryland, School of Baltimore, Baltimore, MD*

**Maria Doughan**, *University of Maryland, School of Baltimore, Baltimore, MD*

**Abstract:** 33-year-old Asian female presented to the University of Maryland School of Dentistry for orthodontic evaluation to address concerns of crowding and an underbite. Clinical examination and diagnostic records revealed a Class III skeletal pattern, Class III subdivision right molar relationship, anterior open bite at U2/L3 bilaterally, and a 2 mm mandibular midline deviation to the left, with mild maxillary and moderate mandibular crowding. The treatment plan involved comprehensive orthodontic therapy with unilateral extraction of LR4, allowing for mandibular midline and crowding correction as well as distalization of LR3 into a Class I canine relationship. After 22 months of active treatment, the patient's Class III skeletal relationship was successfully camouflaged, resulting in Class I canines bilaterally and maintaining Class III subdivision right molar relationship as a result of the LR4 extraction. Post-treatment retention included maxillary and mandibular Essix retainers.

## Canine Substitution for Frenal Incisors in a Growing Adolescent : A Multidisciplinary Case Report

**Padma Mukherjee**, *Rutgers School of Dental Medicine, Westfield, NJ*

**Kriya Patel**, *Rutgers School of Dental Medicine, Newark, NJ*

**Kumpal Patel**, *Rutgers School of Dental Medicine, Newark, NJ*

**Rami Muadab**, *Rutgers School of Dental Medicine, Newark, NJ*

**Abstract:** This case report describes the management of a 11-year-old boy who came to the orthodontics clinic with the chief complaint of “ my tooth is stuck”. Clinical and radiographic examination revealed transposition of maxillary canines with maxillary centrals and mobility of maxillary right central and inflammation and swelling of the gingiva in the maxillary anterior region. Patient was Angle Class I with anterior open bite and crowding. Patient was given treatment options including comprehensive orthodontic treatment plan with extraction of maxillary central incisors and lower first premolars, surgical exposure of maxillary canines and prosthodontic reshaping of maxillary canines. Another option was placing implants in the position of central incisors due to poor prognosis. The patient and family choose the first option. Success of the case was due to excellent interdisciplinary management and co-ordination. Long term, the patient benefited from the cost of implants.

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## Canine Substitution to Replace Maxillary Laterals in Cleft Lip and Palate Patient

**Shannan Walker**, *University of Maryland School of Dentistry, Baltimore, MD*

**Tri Le**, *University of Maryland School of Dentistry, Baltimore, MD*

**Elise Tigani**, *University of Maryland School of Dentistry, Baltimore, MD*

**Jeremy Dock**, *University of Maryland School of Dentistry, Baltimore, MD*

**Monica Schneider**, *University of Maryland School of Dentistry, Baltimore, MD*

**Abstract:** 10-year-old African American male presented for orthodontic evaluation at the University of Maryland School of Dentistry with a history of surgical repair of unilateral cleft lip and palate. The patient presented in the mixed dentition phase with an asymmetric and tapered maxillary arch, upper left peg lateral, ectopically erupting upper canines, and severe maxillary crowding. These findings coincided with dental anomalies associated with cleft lip and palate patients. A fan palatal expander was utilized to begin developing the maxillary arch and facilitate Secondary Alveolar Bone Grafting Surgery to repair residual cleft defects. For optimum esthetics and to enable proper eruption of canines, the lateral incisors were extracted and mechanics for canine substitution was initiated. Currently, the patient continues to undergo comprehensive orthodontic treatment. Midlines have coincided and closure of residual space is in process. Full space closure and favorable esthetics is anticipated

## Class II Correction Using Twin Block Appliance

**Katie Garrett**, *University of Maryland, Baltimore, MD*

**Alicia Briscoe**, *University of Maryland School of Dentistry, Baltimore, MD*

**Viney Saini**, *University of Maryland, Baltimore, MD*

**Abstract:** 13-year-old male presented for orthodontic evaluation at the University of Maryland School of Dentistry with the chief complaint of "I just want my teeth straighter." Patient is Dental and Skeletal Class II, has moderate maxillary crowding, mild mandibular crowding, blocked out U3s, retroclined upper and lower incisors, 100% deep bite with palatal impingement, and a gummy smile. The non-extraction treatment plan included use of a Twin Block appliance. It was explained that the appliance must be worn 22 hours a day and compliance is crucial and for treatment to be effective. Once the blocked out U3s were brought into the arch and overjet of the maxillary incisors was increased to enable mandibular advancement, the Twin Block appliance was delivered. After 6 months of use, the overjet was reduced from 9mm to 4mm. The case was then completed with traditional brackets and Class II elastics.

## Comprehensive Treatment of Class II Division II: 4 Premolar Extractions and Immediate Orthodontic Wax Placement for Patient Education

**Alicia Briscoe**, *University of Maryland School of Dentistry, Baltimore, MD*

**Xuan Wu**, *Baltimore, MD*

**Jose Bosio**, *University of Maryland School of Dentistry, Baltimore, MD*

**Abstract:** A 28-year-old female presented with the desire to "improve my smile." She exhibited a skeletal Class II malocclusion, a retrognathic mandible, constricted arches, Class II Division II malocclusion, severe crowding, palatal impingement, and wear facets on maxillary and mandibular central and lateral incisors. The treatment plan chosen was orthodontics with traditional brackets and extraction of maxillary first premolars and mandibular second premolars. The patient was informed about restoring worn out teeth for enhanced aesthetics. Treatment was completed in 33 months, achieving ideal canine and molar relationships, and the case was retained with Essix retainers. Orthodontic wax was used for buildups on maxillary central and lateral incisors to illustrate potential composite bonding, helping the patient visualize restoration options and make informed treatment decisions. The orthodontic wax placement technique is described.

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## **Correcting Skeletal Class III Malocclusion with Clear Aligner Therapy: Addressing CR-CO Functional Shift and Development of Posterior Open Bite During Treatment**

**Justin Mack**, *University of Maryland, Baltimore, MD*  
**Byron Bonebreak**, *University of Maryland, Baltimore, MD*  
**Dina Sanchez**, *University of Maryland, Baltimore, MD*  
**Lindsey Diaz**, *University of Maryland, Baltimore, MD*

**Abstract:** A 17-year-old African American male presented orthodontic treatment. He has a Class III skeletal tendency and a discrepancy between centric relation (CR) and centric occlusion (CO), characterized by an anterior crossbite and Class III relationships of the molars and canines in centric occlusion, along with an edge-to-edge bite in centric relation. The patient expressed a strong preference for clear aligner therapy. The final treatment plan involved clear aligner therapy, the use of lingual bite ramps to help correct the bite, mandibular interproximal disking, elastics, and torquing of both maxillary and mandibular incisors to address the Class III relationship. During the correction of the anterior crossbite, a bilateral posterior open bite developed. Molar extrusion has been gradually achieved through several tray refinements to address the posterior open bite. The patient is currently satisfied with the progress, and closure of the posterior open bite is anticipated.

## **Effectiveness of Rapid Palatal Expansion in Creating Space for a Buccally Erupted Maxillary Canine**

**Dr. Iman Shirmohammadi**, *University of Maryland School of Dentistry, Department of Orthodontics, Baltimore, MD*  
**Maria Doughan**, *University of Maryland School of Dentistry, Department of Orthodontics, Baltimore, MD*

**Abstract:** A 13-year-old female presented to the University of Maryland Orthodontic clinic with the chief complaint: "I don't like my smile", while pointing to her ectopically erupting UL3. The patient presented with a tapered maxillary arch form, bilateral Class I molar relationships, a right end-on Class II canine relationship, a buccally erupted UL3, an anterior crossbite involving UL2, severe maxillary crowding, moderate mandibular crowding, and a maxillary midline deviation of 4mm to the left relative to the facial midline. Cephalometric analysis revealed a skeletal class I pattern with a hyperdivergent tendency and retroclined maxillary and mandibular incisors. The treatment plan involved using an RPE to develop the tapered maxillary arch and create sufficient space. Anchorage was controlled in the posterior segments while consolidating the space created from the expansion anteriorly to allow proper alignment of both UL2 and UL3 and correct the midline deviation.

## **Effects of Adolescent MARPE Treatment and MARPE Augmentation for Skeletal Anchorage**

**Tri Le**, *University of Maryland School of Dentistry, Baltimore, MD*  
**Flavio Copello**, *University of Maryland, Baltimore, MD*

**Abstract:** Maxillary transverse deficiency is a prevalent finding in growing patients, ranging from 8-23% of the population. Tooth-borne rapid palatal expansion is an effective and efficient treatment modality for this adolescent population; however, the lack of posterior dentition can make treatment challenging. MARPE is a possible treatment option for maxillary expansion in these scenarios. An 11-year-old female was referred to the Department of Orthodontics at the University of Maryland to assess the complexity of malocclusion and to evaluate the potential need for orthognathic surgery. The patient presented in mixed dentition with maxillary transverse deficiency, edentulous upper right posterior quadrant, bilateral posterior crossbite, anterior crossbite, and skeletal class III tendency. MARPE treatment was utilized for this patient due to the lack of tooth support for a standard tooth-borne expander. The MARPE was augmented and skeletal anchorage capabilities of the MARPE expander were used.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12



## **Molar Uprighting and Intrusion with Skeletal Anchorage Prior to Implant Placement: A Case Report**

**Christina Grace**, *University of Maryland, School of Baltimore, Baltimore, MD*  
**Flavio Copello**, *University of Maryland, Baltimore, MD*

**Abstract:** 62-year-old Middle Eastern male presented for orthodontic evaluation at the University of Maryland School of Dentistry with referral from general dentist to create space for LL6 implant. Clinical examination and diagnostic records revealed missing LL6, supraerupted UL6, and mesially tipped LL7/8, resulting in 3 mm of mesio-distal width in LL6 edentulous space. The treatment plan included limited orthodontic treatment with mini-implants inserted buccally and palatally to UL6 for intrusion and between LL4 and 5 for uprighting of LL7. Patient was also referred for extractions of UL8 and LL8. Full correction of UL6 and LL7 positions were achieved in 9 months, and LL6 edentulous space was restored with Nobel dental implant and zirconia crown. No retention protocol was necessary to maintain results. Total time from initiating orthodontic treatment to implant placement and restoration was 1 year, 8 months.

## **Orthodontic Management of a 14-Year-Old with Cleidocranial Dysplasia: Initial Phase of a Multidisciplinary Approach**

**Elizabeth Crowe**, *University of Maryland, Baltimore, Baltimore, MD*  
**Eung-Kwon Pae**, *University of Maryland, Baltimore, Baltimore, MD*  
**Vicente Telles da Silva**, *University of Maryland, Baltimore, Baltimore, MD*

**Abstract:** Orthodontic management of cleidocranial dysplasia (CCD) presents challenges due to dental and skeletal abnormalities. Successful treatment requires patient cooperation and a multidisciplinary approach. This case report focuses on the initial phase of a three-part orthodontic treatment plan for a 14-year-old male patient with CCD. Clinical and radiographic assessments revealed multiple supernumerary teeth, midface hypoplasia, mandibular prognathism, delayed exfoliation of deciduous teeth, and delayed eruption of permanent teeth. A comprehensive treatment plan was developed, starting with a CBCT, extraction of maxillary supernumerary teeth, and surgical exposure of unerupted maxillary and mandibular teeth. Orthodontic traction was applied to the upper and lower incisors, successfully achieving the goals of the initial treatment phase.

## **Strategic Bracket Positioning when Mesializing Lateral Incisors to Prevent Root Resorption and Avoid Canine Impaction**

**Dr. Steven Zinn**, *University of Maryland, Baltimore, MD*  
**David Greene**, *University of Maryland, Baltimore, MD*  
**Justin Mack**, *University of Maryland, Baltimore, MD*  
**Tori Wallace**, *University of Maryland, Baltimore, MD*  
**Dina Sanchez**, *University of Maryland, Baltimore, MD*

**Abstract:** This case report discusses an 8-year-old male who experienced premature loss of his mandibular primary canines and first primary molars, leading to significant dental drift of the lower permanent lateral incisors. These incisors moved distally, creating a potential risk for the impaction of the developing lower canines. To address this issue, a novel approach was employed: the lateral incisors were mesialized using passive bracket placement and open coil springs. This method effectively prevented the roots of the incisors from tipping distally towards the canines, thereby minimizing the risk of root resorption. By stabilizing the position of the lateral incisors, we aimed to maintain adequate space for the eruption of the canines while promoting proper alignment of the dental arch. The intervention highlights the importance of early orthodontic management in cases of premature primary tooth loss, as well as the potential for mechanical strategies to protect against root resorption.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13

## The Bony Oropharyngeal Path Have Narrowed Since Medieval Times

**Eung-Kwon Pae**, *University of Maryland, Baltimore, Baltimore, MD*

**Joseph Kvint**, *University of Maryland, Baltimore, Baltimore, MD*

**Abstract:** Linear measures were collected on excavated 273 adult (169 males, 104 female) skulls from medieval burial areas in England, Germany, Poland, and Romania and compared with those of gender-matched modern 160 adult (58 males, 102 female) European descendants using 3-D CBCT images. The objective was to determine if Medieval skulls differ from Modern skulls, and whether any differences would show a characteristic change, i.e., uniformly greater or smaller. When comparing Medieval skulls vs. Modern skulls using Bland-Altman analysis (GraphPad Prism 10) and unpaired t-tests (SPSS, ver. 25) at  $p < 0.01$ , Modern humans showed a more obtuse gonial angle (by 9 degrees for males and females), a narrower palate (3 mm for both genders) and a shorter nasopharyngeal depth (by 4 mm in males and 3 mm in females) compared with those of Medieval humans. We assume that these changes over the last  $< 1000$  years may be due to 'allostatic load' on skeletal development via imbalanced autonomic nervous system.

## Utilization of Distal Jet Appliance to Correct Class II with Posterior Crossbite

**Jessica Jiang**, *University of Maryland School of Dentistry, Baltimore, MD*

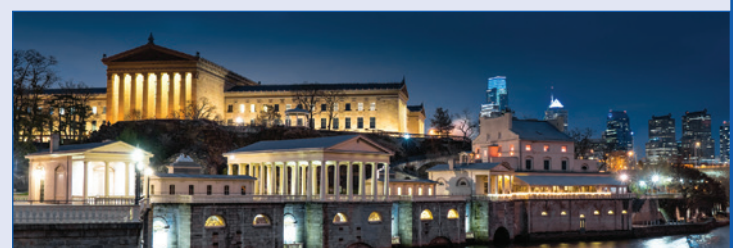
**Saul Burk**, *University of Maryland School of Dentistry, Baltimore, MD*

**Abstract:** A 12-year-old African American male presented to the University of Maryland School of Dentistry seeking orthodontic treatment. The patient was skeletally Class II (ANB=4.6) and presented with right side class II molar relationship, right posterior crossbite, overjet of 8mm and deep bite. His facial profile was within normal limits of Altman's standards with acute nasolabial and labiomental angles. Treatment options aimed to preserve his full face, idealize his canine-molar relationship, correct crossbites and reduce overjet and overbite. A non-extraction approach was recommended. In the event growth and appliance therapy could not achieve a stable Class I occlusion, a compromise or extractions would be recommended. The final treatment plan included a Distal Jet Appliance with class II elastics to distalize the maxillary posterior segment along with Damon fixed appliances. The patient is currently mid treatment post-distalization and progressing very well. ■

## SAVE THE DATE!

### 2026 MASO Spring CE

Friday, March 13 • Philadelphia Union League • Philadelphia, PA





# CASE PRESENTATION

## Management of a Palatally Impacted Maxillary Canine in an Adolescent Patient with a Mandibular Asymmetry

Jessica Azer, DMD, Adam Weiss, DMD, Alexander Stanco, DMD,  
Vanessa Morenzi, DMD, Michael Roth, DDS

### Summary

A 17 year-11 month old African American patient presented to the Jefferson-Einstein orthodontic clinic in the adult dentition with a chief complaint regarding her missing maxillary canine. Initial records revealed a Class I malocclusion, Class I skeletal relationship, impacted maxillary left canine, mandibular asymmetry, and increased overbite. Full fixed appliances were bonded, space was created for the impacted maxillary left canine, and the canine was brought into the arch. This report will summarize the treatment for this patient from initial records through her three-month retainer check.

### Case Presentation

A 17 year-11 month old African American female presented with a chief complaint “I have an impacted canine.” Her medical history was non-contributory. Her dental history revealed several restorations, and she reported no history of dental nor facial trauma. Please note that cephalometric measurements were done using racial norms.

#### *Clinical Findings/Problem List based on presentation:*

- Skeletal Class I relationship ( $ANB = 5.5^\circ$ )
- Angle Class I molar relationship
- Angle Class I canine relationship on the right; unclassified left canine relationship due to impacted maxillary left canine
- Orthognathic maxilla ( $SNA = 83.2^\circ$ ), Orthognathic mandible ( $SNB = 77.7^\circ$ )
- Mandibular asymmetry; chin to the left
- Hypodivergent/low mandibular plane angle of  $29.9^\circ$
- 4 mm overjet, 50% overbite
- Maxillary and mandibular crowding
- Maxillary cant (up to the patient's left)
- Palatally impacted maxillary left canine
- Retroclined maxillary incisors ( $SNI = 97.7^\circ$ )
- Well-angulated mandibular incisors ( $IMPA = 98.9^\circ$ )
- Increased Curve of Wilson
- Non-coincident midlines
- Uncoordinated archforms

#### *Treatment Objectives:*

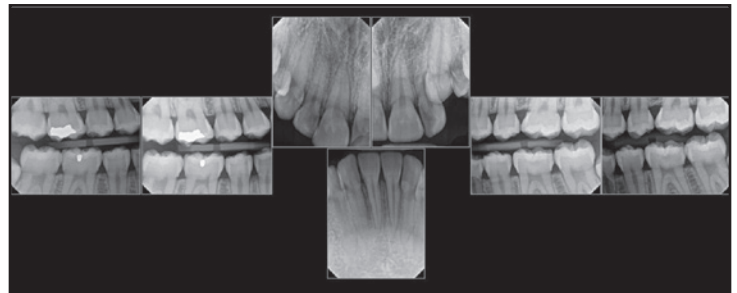
- Maintain Class I molar relationship
- Create space for maxillary left canine
- Achieve bilateral Class I canine relationship
- Establish ideal gingival architecture
- Relieve crowding in maxillary and mandibular arches
- Achieve proper overjet and overbite

### Photos of the Patient's Initial Malocclusion



### Records

Initial records of the patient were taken, which included photos, radiographs, and digital models.



Periapical and bitewing radiographs of the maxillary and mandibular region.



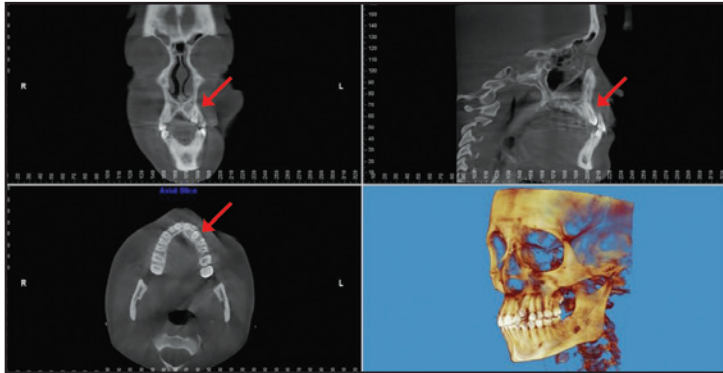
Panoramic radiograph of the patient at initial records. Patient is in the permanent dentition stage. She has all permanent teeth present, including developing third molars in all quadrants.

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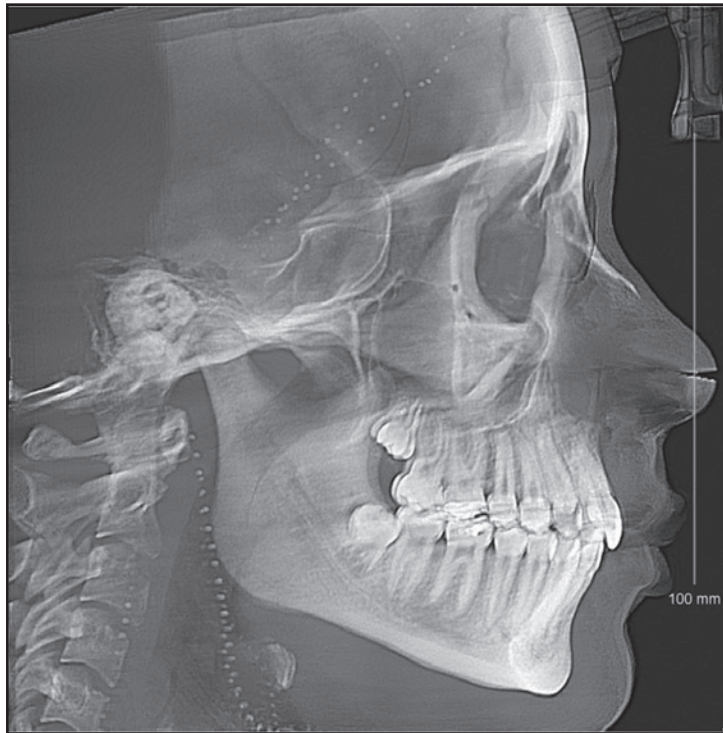
# CASE PRESENTATION

## CASE PRESENTATION

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14



A CBCT of the patient was taken, and it showed that the maxillary left canine was palatally impacted.



Lateral cephalometric radiograph at initial records. The patient is CVM 5; she likely has minimal growth remaining.

## Treatment

### Initial Bonding

Bands were cemented to maxillary and mandibular first molars. Both arches were bonded with .022" slot, MBT prescription, fixed appliances, excluding mandibular canine to canine due to the patient's deep bite. A passive closed coil was placed between the maxillary left lateral incisor and maxillary left first premolar to preserve space. Note that the incisal



edge of the maxillary left canine was visible at this visit. The appliances were engaged with 0.014" nitinol wires from first molar to first molar.

### 2 Months Into Treatment



The patient can be seen at approximately two (2) months into treatment. Additional space for the maxillary left canine was created using an active open coil spring. Anterior bite turbos were bonded to maxillary central incisors, and MBT fixed appliances were bonded from mandibular left canine to mandibular right canine. Maxillary left canine continued to erupt after adequate space was created, at which point a button was bonded and traction began using elastomeric thread. The appliances were engaged with 0.018" nitinol wires from first molar to first molar.

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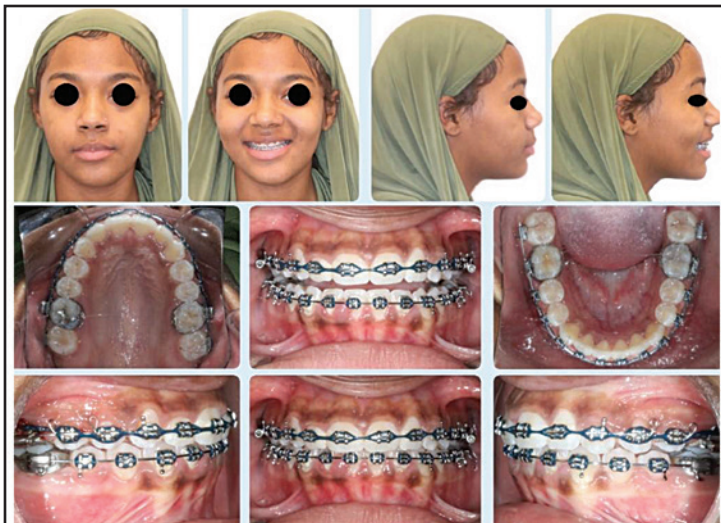
## CASE PRESENTATION CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

### 6 Months Into Treatment



The patient is shown at approximately six (6) months into treatment. After several months of traction, the maxillary left canine was nearly in the arch. MBT prescription bracket was bonded to the maxillary left canine, and 0.016x0.022" stainless steel wires were engaged in both arches.

### 13 Months Into Treatment



The patient can be seen 13 months into treatment. Bilateral lateral open bites were noted, and the patient began bilateral elastics full-time from maxillary first and second premolars to mandibular second premolar.



Progress imaging was taken. Based on clinical and radiographic findings, the maxillary left central incisor was repositioned for distal root tip, the maxillary left first premolar was repositioned for rotation correction, and the mandibular right canine was repositioned for distal root tip.



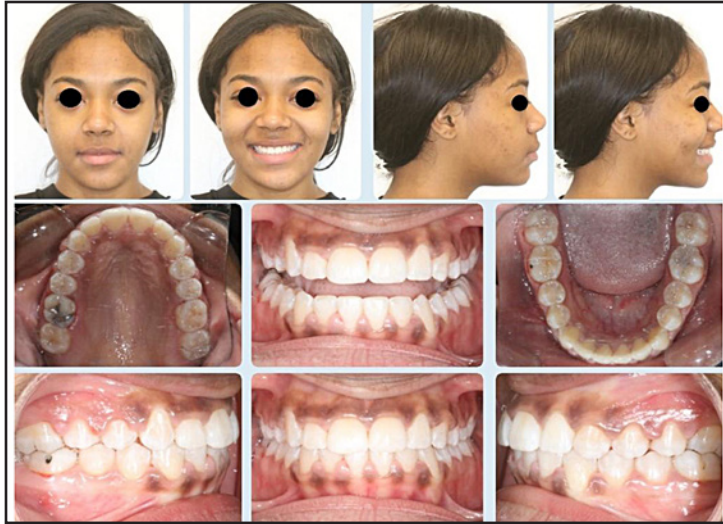
Lateral cephalometric radiograph

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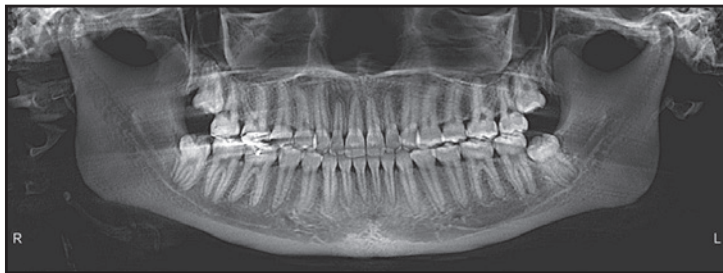
## CASE PRESENTATION

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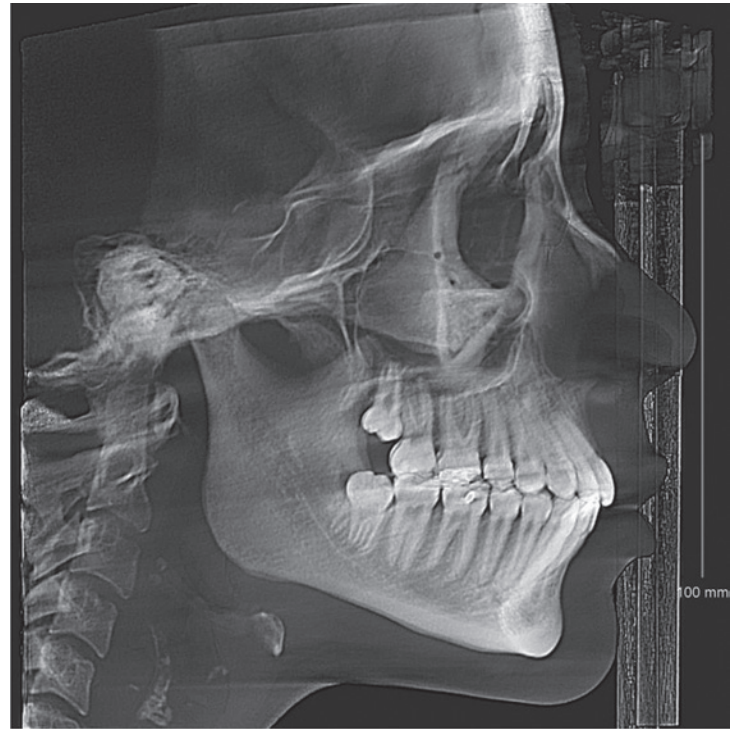
### Debond



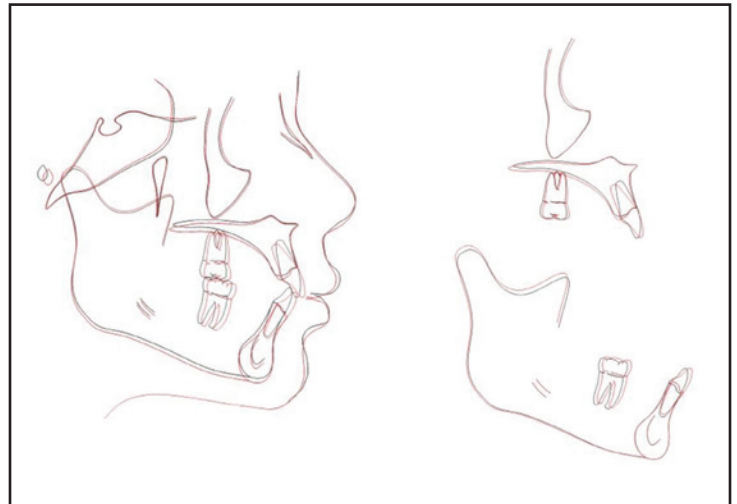
The patient finished treatment in 0.017x0.025" maxillary stainless steel and 0.016x0.022" mandibular stainless steel wires. The patient was debonded after 28 months of treatment. Gingival inflammation was seen in the maxillary posterior regions. Maxillary and mandibular vacuform retainers were delivered, and the patient was instructed to wear the retainers full-time. A referral to the oral surgeon was given for evaluation and extraction of all third molars.



Panoramic radiograph



Lateral cephalometric radiograph. SNI increased from 97.7° to 107.2°. IMPA increased from 98.9° to 104.6°.



Superimposition the lateral cephalometric radiographs at initial records (black) and debond (red). Minimal growth was observed. Proclination of maxillary and mandibular incisors can be seen, supported by the previously mentioned cephalometric measurements.

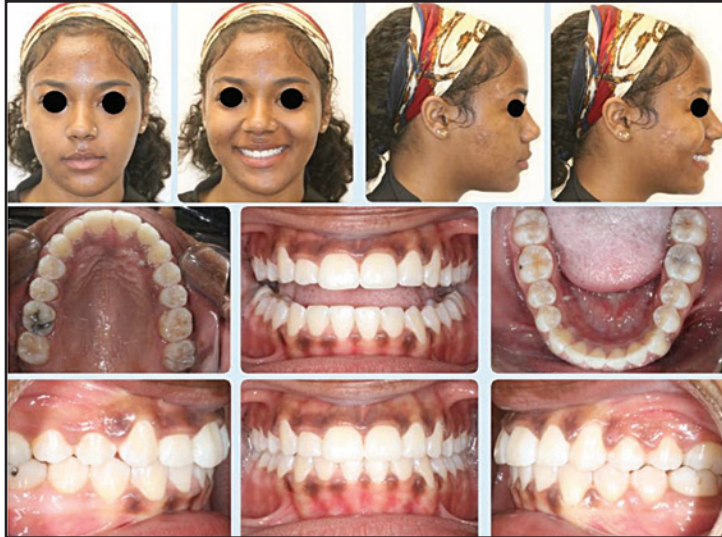
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## CASE PRESENTATION

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

### 3 Month Post-Debond



The patient had been wearing her retainers full-time. After the gingival inflammation subsided, the patient was given a referral to the periodontist for a gingivectomy of her maxillary left lateral incisor.

### OUTCOME AND FOLLOW-UP

After 28 months of active treatment, the patient was debonded. The impacted maxillary canine was brought into the arch, and Class I canine relationship was achieved. When the maxillary left canine was seen erupting, it was a signal that it was not ankylosed. Methodical traction ensured that the patient's cant did not worsen. The patient finished with ideal overjet and improved overbite. The Curve of Wilson improved, and the arches were coordinated. Ideal gingival architecture was not established, and this will be evaluated by a periodontist for a gingivectomy. The patient's cant was present at the end of treatment, and it is likely that this cannot be addressed without orthognathic surgery.

Proper diagnosis and treatment planning in orthodontics is essential for positive outcomes. Improper diagnoses can yield improper treatment, extended treatment time, and/or the inability to correct the malocclusion. Correction of a noticeable and significant malocclusion can aid in the psychosocial wellness of patients. The patient was satisfied with treatment, and she will continue to be seen for retention checks.



Photos showing an occlusal view of the maxillary arch at the start of treatment (left), at debond (center) and at three months post-debond (right).



Photos showing the anterior view of the arches in occlusion at the start of treatment (left), at debond (center) and at three months post-debond (right).

### LEARNING POINTS/ TAKE HOME MESSAGES

- Proper diagnosis of an impacted canine is paramount to a predictable treatment outcome, and a CBCT is the ideal diagnostic tool to evaluate the position of the impacted canine as well as the health of the roots of the adjacent teeth
- Esthetics are vitally important, especially during one's formative years, and one must discuss the patient's motivations and goals for treatment.
- Early examination can identify skeletal asymmetries before peak growth occurs, and early intervention can help address the asymmetry to correct or prevent the asymmetry from worsening. ■



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*Brett T. Schott*  
Vice President  
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CONTINUED ON PAGE 20





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## AAO COUNCIL REPORTS



### COUNCIL ON COMMUNICATIONS

Dr. Richard H Albright III

The goal of the COC is to encourage and support public and patient education in orthodontics and inform AAO members of available services, materials and benefits. The COC is busy with initiatives focused on providing AAO members with a variety of valuable resources and educating the public on the importance of visiting an orthodontic specialist for their treatment. COC initiatives for 2025 include; continuation of the CAP or Consumer Awareness Program, Smiles at 7, Member Marketing, and the Bullying Bites campaign.

The Consumer Awareness Program is the largest advertising campaign promoting “orthodontists as specialists”. It is a longstanding program that educates the AAO members and the public on the value of visiting an AAO member orthodontist for orthodontic treatment. The CAP drives the public seeking orthodontic treatment to the AAO website, which is a valuable source for dependable and accurate information about Orthodontics.

The “Smiles at 7” is an awareness campaign celebrated on July Seventh. This celebration is focused on promoting initial

orthodontic visits at age 7. The AAO has a variety of materials available to AAO members who want to participate in this fun promotional event. Materials for AAO members include in-office products such as T-shirts and posters, community advertisements, and social media posts.

Member communication remains an important part of the COC’s work. The AAO annual session and constituent meeting are great places to witness the value of AAO membership. The AAO has a variety of resources for the AAO members to use in their office and new initiatives and events are continually being added. The AAO member site is the best launching pad for access to the many programs the AAO provides to members.

For the seventh consecutive year, the AAO will recognize October as National Bullying Prevention Month with its “Bullying Bites” program. October is also National Orthodontic Health Month. Please join the AAO and other AAO orthodontic offices in promoting healthy children and anti-bullying by participating in this important national campaign.

The Council on Communications (COC) is focused on promoting orthodontists as specialists and providing the public with a trusted source for information on orthodontics. We look forward to the continued success of the AAO and its members. Please reach out to your member representatives with questions or suggestions. ■



### COUNCIL ON EDUCATION

Dr. Padma Mukherjee

Dear MASO Members,

It was wonderful to see so many of you at the AAO Annual Session in Philadelphia. A special highlight was witnessing our own

**Dr. Steven Siegel** assume the presidency of the AAO—an incredible honor for all MASO members.

The Council on Orthodontic Education (COE) held its annual in-person meeting on September 9, 2024, at AAO Headquarters in St. Louis, Missouri. The meeting was chaired by Dr. Ki Beom Kim and brought together a committed group of members and liaisons:

- **COE Members:** Sercan Akyalcin, Paul C. Armbruster, Jeff Iverson, Padma Mukherjee, Martin J. Palomo, Reginald Taylor, Xingzhong (John) Zhang
- **Liaisons:** Paul Rossouw (ABO), Mitchell Lipp (ADEA), Christos Papadopoulos (CONYM), Richard Williams (Board Liaison)

The COE is responsible for evaluating and recommending policies and initiatives related to orthodontic education, working in consultation with relevant dental, educational, and governmental bodies. The 2024 meeting was productive and forward-looking. Below is a brief summary of key developments:

- **Advocacy & Awareness:** Trey Lawrence provided an update on AAO advocacy efforts and ongoing work with the Subcommittee on Evidence-Based Advocacy to improve public awareness around orthodontic care.
- **Faculty Support:** The AAO remains committed to supporting the **Full-Time Faculty Teaching Fellowship (FFTF)** and other key initiatives that strengthen academic leadership in orthodontics.
- **Service to Underserved Populations:** The COE endorsed continued support for **Donated Orthodontic Services**—a vital initiative to improve access to care.
- **Educational Awards & Opportunities:** I encourage all educators to visit the AAO website for details on application guidelines and deadlines for the following awards and fellowships:

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## AAO COUNCIL REPORTS

- o Full-time Faculty Teaching Fellowship (FFTF)
- o Craniofacial Anomalies & Special Care Training Award
- o Chairs and Academic Administrators Management Program (CAAMP) Fellowship
- o Institute for Teaching & Learning (ITL) Fellowship
- **Fellowship Guidelines:** During the AAO Annual Session in Philadelphia, Dr. Kramer, Dr. John Zhang, and I collaborated to revise the guidelines for **craniofacial fellowship applications**. Our recommendations have been submitted to the AAO Board of Trustees for final review.
- **Leadership Development:** Mindy Brothers introduced a new AAO leadership initiative inspired by Simon Sinek. This program is designed to equip orthodontists with the skills needed to build high-performing teams and lead thriving practices. We hope many of you will take advantage of this exciting opportunity.

Looking ahead, Dr. Sercan Akyalcin was elected as the next Chair of the COE during our December 2024 virtual meeting. We are confident in his leadership and vision for the council's

continued impact. The next in-person COE meeting is scheduled for **November 2, 2025**.

As always, the COE welcomes input from our members and educators. If you have ideas or feedback to share, I invite you to reach out to me directly at [padma.mukherjee@rutgers.edu](mailto:padma.mukherjee@rutgers.edu).

Wishing you a beautiful and restful fall. I look forward to seeing many of you at the next MASO Annual Meeting at the Mayflower Hotel in Washington, DC. ■



Current COE Representatives and AAO Liaisons



### COUNCIL ON MEMBERSHIP, ETHICS & JUDICIAL CONCERNS

Dr. Taran "Ty" Saini

COMEJC's in-person meeting was held on January 10 while St. Louis was experiencing an early morning snowstorm that eventually made its way to the East Coast (just after Maryland was hit pretty hard a few days before!). As a result, we ended up not meeting at the AAO headquarters, but rather staying in the hotel. A conference call was then held on March 19, as we prepared for the AAO Annual Session.

#### Outcomes from the 2025 House of Delegates

COMEJC submitted multiple resolutions to the 2025 House of Delegates, resulting in the following:

- 05-25 COMEJC – Bylaws Amendment (Student Member Eligibility) – **ADOPTED** (with substitutes)
  - o **Result:** Full-time orthodontic interns are now officially eligible for AAO student membership.
- 06-25 COMEJC – Bylaws Amendment (International Member Eligibility) – **ADOPTED**
  - o **Result:** This specifies that AAO International Members are not allowed to practice within the U.S. or Canada to be eligible for membership.

- 07-25 COMEJC – Bylaws Amendment (Member Privileges) – **ADOPTED**
  - o **Result:** Retired Members are now eligible to serve in appointive positions in AAO leadership.
- 08-25 COMEJC and 09-25 COMEJC – Honorary Member Oversight – **ADOPTED** (with substitutes)
  - o **Result:** The Distinguished Service Awards Committee is now responsible for selecting Honorary Members of the AAO. **COMEJC has been directed to determine the criteria to aid in the selection process.**
- 20-25 COMEJC – Financial Policies Amendment (Dues Waivers) – **ADOPTED**
  - o **Result:** Members may now apply for a 25% waiver for parental leave. This also establishes a 25% dues waiver for other conditions (in addition to the existing 50% and 100% waivers). Additionally, members are required to submit a physician's statement when applying for a debilitating medical condition waiver or a primary caregiver waiver.

The Council then held a conference call on May 19th. We welcomed Dr. Hidayat Nagori (SWSO), replacing Dr. Matthew Ng, whom we thanked for his service on the Council, including being its Chair. Our new fearless leader is Dr. Chris Murphy (NESO), who practices in Maine and teaches at Harvard. COMEJC's next in-person meeting will be on January 9, 2026, at the AAO headquarters in St. Louis.

As always, I welcome any thoughts you may have to make the AAO stronger and more representative of its members, so please feel free to contact me at any time. ■



## AAO COUNCIL REPORTS


**COUNCIL ON  
NEW AND YOUNGER  
MEMBERS**
**Dr. Natalie Miller**

CONYM members convened for our in-person meeting on February 8, 2025, in St. Louis, then kicked off another council year with a virtual meeting held on May 14, 2025. This year, Dr. Michael Durbin and Dr. India Collier will serve as our trustee liaisons. We continue to provide feedback on AAO's high-level strategy for resident and new orthodontist engagement, support AAO's membership renewal efforts amongst new orthodontists, and work with the Resident Champions program while continuously brainstorming ways to enhance the program.

CONYM helped to plan the New Orthodontist and Resident Conference at the 2025 AAO annual session in Philadelphia. This year, lectures were given by Dr. Jahnavi Rao and Dr. Kyle Fagala. Despite the New Orthodontist and Resident Conference being open to both residents and new/younger practicing orthodontists, data suggests that residents have primarily attended the conference since its formation. There has been feedback amongst membership that the younger practicing orthodontists are seeking resources from the AAO annual session that are more exclusively tailored to their needs. After much brainstorming and planning, the board of trustees recently approved the AAO's launch of a New/Younger

Orthodontist Conference, separate from the residents. This will be piloted at the 2026 Annual Session in Orlando.

Another exciting initiative that has finally come to life as of November 2024 is the PropFuel campaign. This is a conversational platform that will help residents become connected and engaged with the AAO starting from the moment they match. While we're excited about this new avenue for resident engagement, we have noticed a decline in the number of residency programs signing up for AAO-offered presentations, such as Resident Vitals and legal/financial sessions. CONYM encourages educators to take advantage of these offerings and sign up for these presentations to support their residents. Additionally, the AAO continues to offer the Wharton MBO program and has also launched the Inspiring Leadership Program in partnership with Simon Sinek as of October 2024. A discounted rate is available for residents, and we encourage educators to make them aware of these valuable opportunities.

CONYM continues to represent the AAO at the annual GORP and ASDA meetings to engage the residents and future members of our profession. A CONYM representative will be in attendance at GORP in Lexington, KY, in July, and I will be representing CONYM at the ASDA National Leadership Conference in Chicago, IL, in November.

CONYM will hold its in-person annual meeting in St. Louis in early 2026. ■


**COUNCIL ON  
ORTHODONTIC  
BENEFITS**
**Dr. Christopher Liang**

The council met in St. Louis on June 7. The council has been focused on improving the member experience. There has always been an opportunity for members to call an AAO staff member through the Dental Benefit Advisory Service; however, the council has been working on an AI Insurance Chatbot, nicknamed "Tina," to provide immediate assistance to members and staff. Tina is undergoing testing and is expected to be deployed by the end of the year.

The council has been working to improve and clarify the definition of medically necessary orthodontics, as there are several different interpretations. We are also seeking to clarify the definition of Comprehensive Orthodontics, as some insurance carriers may pay for Phase I but not for Phase II, even if a claim for Comprehensive Orthodontics has been previously submitted. This has prevented many patients from receiving their full benefits. The descriptors for D8210 Removable Appliance Therapy and D8220 Fixed Appliance Therapy are also being clarified.

Finally, the council is working on making our annual Coding Corner, which is presented at the Annual Session, a course that will receive continuing education credit. ■

## AAO COUNCIL REPORTS



**COUNCIL ON  
ORTHODONTIC PRACTICE**  
Dr. Madeleine Goodman

**GENERAL:** COOP will hold its annual in-person meeting in St. Louis the weekend of October 25th. Below is a recap of our ongoing programs as well as some initiatives we have in the works.

**OFFICE DESIGN SERIES:** The AAO is proud to have released their efforts on an entirely new approach to the AAO office design webpage. Its infrastructure is supported by business field experts, resulting in professional contributions to the area of orthodontic office design. We are planning to release an updated version later this year. <https://www2.aaoinfo.org/practice-management/office-design-for-the-orthodontist/>

**PRACTICE TRANSITIONS:** We've started a major initiative to develop and maintain the AAO's Practice Transition content. Our plan is to use focus groups of micro-volunteers with recent experience in the following areas: Practice Startups, Practice Purchase and Practice Sale to Orthodontist, and Practice Sale to OSO/DSO. Our goal is to gather insights and information from multiple sources, including incumbent orthodontists and subject matter experts, organized by transition type. We will develop practical tools such as planning checklists and quick reference guides to support others through practice transitions. Also, we will identify pain points to prioritize needs for future targeted solutions. Please let us know if you are interested in helping with this valuable project.

**TECH TRANSFORMATION:** The members of COOP are aiding the AAO's Tech Transformation by helping with the taxonomy review. A taxonomy is a structured system or classification scheme for organizing information. It's how we label and categorize the resources you use—like webinars, articles, forms, templates, and more—so they're easier to find, understand, and use. This work ensures that regardless of where content lives

(e.g., on the website, in the learning platform, or elsewhere), you can search and discover it using consistent, meaningful terms. This will improve how members find and access online content.

**AAO PRACTICE MANAGEMENT FORMS:** To best serve the membership and their clients, informed consent forms of varied topics are available to you on the AAO website. I am confident that there is something there that you may not have considered for your practice – please take the time to visit. COOP welcomes all member recommendations to modernize AAO forms as well as share subject suggestions (or example consent forms used in your practice) perhaps not yet broached by the AAO. Please note review of material, a new subject, or modification does not confirm future use by the AAO. Significant vetting and legal review is required; however, we thank you for any contribution to the membership. New in 2024, we are working on offering all forms in Spanish versions.

**ORTHODONTIC STAFF CLUB (OSC) AND ALL THINGS STAFFING:** We have many outreach initiatives going to help educate potential employees on the joys of working in the orthodontic field. Also, doctors are encouraged to continue the promotion of the Specialized Orthodontic Assistant program as well as clarify the benefits of membership on-line (website access, fee discounts, and the like). The OSC Facebook page has been transformed into a valuable education resource, encompassing topics such as team training, bolstering the member business acumen, clinical pearls, etc. We are planning to update this program in 2025. Please join us: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/AAOstaffclub>

**SUSTAINABILITY SUBCOMMITTEE:** We enjoyed a webinar on May 8th given by Dr. Chris Oviedo on how we can make our offices more sustainable. You can access the recording on the AAO website.

I welcome you to reach out at any time with questions, comments, or suggestions that I may share with the Council throughout the year. Thank you for your trust and support! ■



## AAO COUNCIL REPORTS



### COUNCIL ON SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS

**Dr. Jose Bosio**

The AAO Council on Scientific Affairs (COSA) met during the 2025 Annual AAO Meeting in Philadelphia, and COSA made no recommendations to the BOT. The following items were discussed during the meeting:

1. Dr. Sheela Premaraj from the Southern Association of Orthodontists is the new representative to COSA, and Dr. Jae Park has become the new Trustee Liaison, given his new position as editor of AJODO.
2. Two Oral Research presenters gave their presentations at the SOE Leadership meeting on April 24: Dr. Konstantinia Almpani from Bethesda, MD, and Dr. Sheena Sachdeva from Vancouver, BC. **Dr. Jose Bosio** explained the details involved in the selection process for these two presentations: Two Oral Research presenters are chosen to present at the Annual Session during the SOE meeting. The Oral Research reviewers identify a small pool of applicants (6-10) to submit preview videos for consideration to speak at the SOE meeting. The COSA chair will then recruit a couple of different COSA members to assist with the decision, and they will vote independently after reviewing the videos submitted. The AAO liaison calculates the final ranking and declares the final presenters.
3. AAO Librarian (Jackie Hittner) has asked if COSA should continue to keep/store/archive all previous HSG award papers/applications. COSA agreed unanimously that there is no need to retain/store all applications. Winners will be tracked, and in the future, applications will be available in the Foundant online system if needed to be traced back.
4. Dr. Bosio reviewed with the council their responsibilities during the Annual Session. And all COSA members worked on judging the Resident Scholar Award, Oral Research presentations, and Table Clinic program. An important job is to keep the science of the profession in motion, more specifically, to stimulate younger minds to create new orthodontic science.
5. For the **Dr. William R. Proffit Resident Scholar Award (RSA)** the following reminder were added:
  - a. \*There are three awards each for both clinical and basic science. If deemed worthy, COSA can add a 4th place award for each category (basic/clinical).
  - b. \*RSA procedures for participation checks of \$750 will be adapted to comply with tax laws per the CFO starting the annual session in 2026.

- i. Participant checks will still be distributed at the annual session, but for \$500 (not \$750).
  - ii. Participants will be eligible for an additional \$250 reimbursement, but will need to submit receipts to receive the additional funds. (This maintains ZERO tax liability)
  - iii. Prize winners will still receive a participant check of \$500, but their prize reimbursement will increase by \$250 for 1st, 2nd, & 3rd place awards accordingly. FOR EXAMPLE:
    1. 1st place winner travel reimbursement up to \$1,250.00
    2. 2nd place winner travel reimbursement up to \$1,000.00
    3. 3rd place winner travel reimbursement up to \$750.00
- c. Thirty-six applications were received, with four coming from international applicants.
- d. Thirty-six applications were reviewed by Dr. Bosio, who checked for correct category placement; zero applicants had their category changed.
- e. Thirty-six applications were accepted to be judged on April 25th: eight basic science and twenty-eight clinical sciences.
- f. ZERO participants withdrew from the program
6. **Oral Research Program:** An attendance sheet was taken to see the number of participants in these programs. All presentations went smoothly.
7. **E-Posters Statistics:** Three hundred and eighty-five e-Posters were accepted. The deadline to upload e-Posters was March 30, 2025. Three hundred forty-six e-Posters were successfully uploaded. Three accepted e-Poster applicants emailed to withdraw from the program. Thirty-six accepted e-Poster applicants did not upload their posters.
8. **Marketing of 2025 Hellman, Sicher, Graber Lectures at Annual Session:** Marketing info was posted on the AAO AS2025 webpage as well as the On-Site program. Lecture info of award winners was published in the March 20, 2025, AAO e-Bulletin. Email reminders will be sent to program chairs of winners on April 10th, 2025, encouraging the chairs to spread the word and invite fellow faculty and residents from the program to attend and support the winners from their respective schools.
9. **2026 Hellman, Sicher, Graber Application process:** Application window was opened on the AAO website on

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## AAO COUNCIL REPORTS

March 15, 2025. An email was sent to all orthodontic department/program chairs in May 2025, reminding the application window is now open. The announcement was in the AAO e-Bulletin, May 16, 2025.

10. COSA will be meeting again via ZOOM on January 9, 2026.

11. I have completed my term as Chair of COSA. The new Council Chair is Dr. Helder B. Jacob, from Oklahoma University.

Thank you. ■



2025 COSA members



### AAO HOUSE OF DELEGATES

**Dr. Jean McGill**

Many thanks to the Delegates and Alternate Delegates who represented MASO during the AAO House of Delegates (HOD). The HOD was held on April 24 and 27, 2025 during our Annual Session in Philadelphia. MASO was well represented by **Dr. Rick Isaacson, Dr. Kathy Marshall, Dr. Tarun (Ty) Saini, Dr. Lara Minahan, Dr. Jean Asmar, Dr. Sana Augustus, Dr. Paul Batastini** and *Dr. Edmund Khoo*. I was honored to serve as both our Delegation Chair and Chair of Chairs. I would also like to thank MASO member **Dr. Luis Toro** for his mentorship to both me and the Delegation while he served the HOD as Speaker of the House.

The AAO House of Delegates is the governing body of the AAO and consists of 64 members. The full summary of the AAO House of Delegates (HOD) actions is located on the AAO website listed under the Governance section. Here are some highlights of proceedings from the 2025 HOD:

AAO Dues will increase by 2.8% (\$23) for full dues paying active members in the United States. The CAP assessment remains the same (\$600).

HOD voted to fund the Consumer Awareness Program (CAP) at \$5 Million per year for FY26-27, FY27-28, and FY28-29. Funding will come from a \$600 per member assessment. If a supplement is needed to get to \$5 Million, it will come from Undesignated Net Assets. The Council on Communications (COC) oversees the CAP.

HOD approved an update to the AAO definition of Medically Necessary Orthodontic Care. This definition is reviewed annually by both the Council of Orthodontic Benefits (COB) and the Council on Government Advocacy (COGA).

The AAO will now allow full time interns at orthodontic programs to join as student members while they complete their internship. The HOD also approved an amendment to our Bylaws to allow retired members to serve in appointed positions (task forces, special committees, consulting roles with councils, committees or other AAO entities).

Please feel free to reach out to me or any of the Delegates with ideas or suggestions to be considered at the House of Delegates at the 2026 Annual Session in Orlando.

*See photos from the House of Delegates meeting on page 28.)* ■

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Dr. Luis Toro, Dr. Padma Mukherjee, and Dr. Jean McGill at the House of Delegates.



Dr. Tarun (Ty) Saini at the House of Delegates, who won the ending time poll.



MASO volunteers at the AAO House of Delegates



Dr. Larry Wang-Trustee, Dr. Steve Siegel-AAO president, and Dr. Luis Toro-Speaker of the House



## ABO CONSTITUENCY REPORT

### Dr. Roberto Hernandez-Orsini

#### ABO MISSION

The American Board of Orthodontics (ABO) remains committed to elevating the quality of orthodontic care for the public by promoting excellence through certification, education,

and professional collaboration.

#### Board Certification Update

- We are pleased to announce that 65% of AAO orthodontists are now ABO-Board Certified – a significant milestone in our commitment and mission to advancing the profession.

## EXAMINATIONS OVERVIEW

### Written Examination

- The 2025 Written Examination was administered on April 9, 2025, to 442 examinees at Pearson Vue Testing Centers across the U.S. and Canada.
- Pass rate: 95%
- Next Exam Date: April 7, 2026
- Registration Opens: November 5, 2025

### Eligibility Requirements

- Applicants must be enrolled in or have graduated from a CODA-accredited orthodontic program in the U.S. or Canada.
- Orthodontic residents must have completed at least 18 months of training by the exam date.

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## Scenario-Based Clinical Examination

- The most recent exam was held on September 17, 2024, at Pearson Vue Testing Centers worldwide.
- Certified Orthodontists: 326
- Pass rate: 89%
- Next Exam Date: September 17, 2025
- Registration Deadline: June 15, 2025

## Important Reminder

- Beginning in 2025, one Scenario-Based Clinical Examination will be offered ONCE a year, in the fall.
- 2026 Registration Opens on September 18, 2025

**Note:** Successful completion of the Written Examination is required before registering and taking the Clinical Examination. Preparation materials are available on the ABO website.

## Certification Renewal Examination

- 149 renewals completed in 2024
- Required every 10 years to maintain active board certification
- The recertification process may be started up to 36 months before the certificate expiration date
- Two examination options:
  - o Online Board Case Examination (BCE)
  - o Mail-In Case Report Examination (CRE)
- Both options require completion of continuing education credits through AJODO online exams

Resources for exam preparation are available on the ABO website.

## ABO Examination Contacts

- Written Examination Certification Coordinator:
  - o Nicole Huson | Nicole@AmericanBoardOrtho.com
- Clinical Examination Coordinator:
  - o Kim Koch | Kim@AmericanBoardOrtho.com

## EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

### Pathway Program

- Features 16 Ambassadors across all 8 Constituencies
- As of May 1, 2025 a total of 37 presentations have been made to orthodontic programs
- Offers in-person or virtual presentations to orthodontic programs on the pathway to board certification

## Meetings & Participation

**AAO 2025 Women's Leadership Workshop** – Dr. Meenakshi Vishwanath attended this inaugural event in Marco Island, FL, January 26-27. She discussed leadership advice aligned with the mission of the ABO, emphasizing the qualities the ABO seeks in future directors.

- **ASAE Exceptional Boards: Strengthening the Governance Team** – Attended by the incoming Executive Committee, **Dr. Roberto Hernandez-Orsini**, Dr. Emile Rossouw, **Dr. Anthony Puntillo**, and Carole Newport, January 27-28 in Cape Coral, FL.
- **Educators Symposium** – The 2025 Educators Symposium took place in St. Louis, MO, on February 21-22 in honor of Dr. Jeryl English. The main topic was “Addressing Challenges in Orthodontic Education.” The symposium was a great success with 89 attendees, including Educators, ABO Directors,

ABO Emeriti, ABO Ambassadors, AAO representatives, and CDABO representatives.

## Marketing and Communication

- Development of a new ABO storefront, social media campaigns, and new communication strategies to be introduced in August 2025.
- “Behind the Smile” orthodontist spotlight has been a positive engagement tool.

## Follow the ABO Online

- Facebook: [facebook.com/americanboardoforthodontics](https://facebook.com/americanboardoforthodontics)
- Instagram: [instagram.com/americanboardorthodontics](https://instagram.com/americanboardorthodontics)
- LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/the-american-board-of-orthodontics/>

## ABO LEADERSHIP (2025–2026)

**Dr. Roberto Hernandez-Orsini**, President, Middle Atlantic Society of Orthodontists

Dr. P Emile Rossouw, President-Elect, Northeastern Society of Orthodontists

Dr. Anthony Puntillo, Secretary/Treasurer, Great Lakes Association of Orthodontists

Dr. Daniel J. Rejman, Director, Rocky Mountain Society of Orthodontists

Dr. Meenakshi Vishwanath, Director, Midwestern Society of Orthodontists

Dr. Onur Kadioglu, Director, Southwestern Society of Orthodontists

Dr. Timothy Tremont, Director, Southern Association of Orthodontists

Dr. Paul M. Kasrovi, Director, Pacific Coast Society of Orthodontists

Dr. Jae Hyun Park, Immediate Past President, Pacific Coast Society of Orthodontists

## New Appointment

- The AAO House of Delegates confirmed Dr. Paul M. Kasrovi as the new Director representing the Pacific Coast Society of Orthodontists on the ABO Board.

## Interested in becoming an ABO Director?

To learn more about the Director Selection Process, click here: <https://www.americanboardortho.com/about-abo/our-leadership/abo-directors/>

- New for 2026 – Director Nominee interviews (previously virtual) will be in-person, in St. Louis, MO

## ABO AT THE 2025 AAO ANNUAL SESSION – Philadelphia, PA

### Awards Night Recognition – 2025 Recipients

- Albert H. Ketcham Memorial Award: Dr. David Sarver
- Dale B. Wade Award of Excellence in Orthodontics: Dr. Scott Jamieson, Dr. Larry Tadlock
- Earl E. and Wilma S. Shepard Distinguished Service Award: Mrs. Melissa Brydels
- O.B. Vaughan Special Recognition Award: Dr. Jim Henderson

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## 2026 Award Recipients (to be recognized at the AAO Annual Session in Orlando, FL)

- Albert H. Ketcham Memorial Award: Dr. Richard Kulbersh
- Dale B. Wade Award of Excellence in Orthodontics: Dr. Steven Marshall
- Earl E. and Wilma S. Shepard Distinguished Service Award: Dr. Steven Dugoni
- O.B. Vaughan Special Recognition Award: Dr. R. David Rynearson

## ABO-Sponsored Events at Annual Session

- ABO/AAO Breakfast – Continuing traditions and strengthening collaboration

- ABO Booth – Located in the AAO Pavilion; welcomed newly certified orthodontists, photo opportunities with ABO-Board Certified props, and shared information regarding new marketing materials and a new ABO storefront on the horizon.
- Italian Board of Orthodontics (IBO)/Italian Society of Orthodontics (SIDO)/ABO Meeting – Policy and certification discussions
- Director Presentations – Several ABO Directors presented on clinical and professional topics
- Appreciation Breakfast – Honored ABO Emeriti, Examiners, and Ambassadors
- Standard Setting – Written Exam Standard Setting meeting ■



**SOCIETY OF  
ORTHODONTIC EDUCATION**  
Dr. Anil Ardeshta

It was a productive and enriching year for the Society of Orthodontic Educators (SOE), and I am pleased to provide this report summarizing our activities and accomplishments over the past year.

As President of SOE for the 2024–2025 term, I had the privilege of serving alongside an outstanding team of officers. Together, we worked to support and advance the mission of SOE through programming that fostered excellence, collaboration, and innovation in orthodontic education.

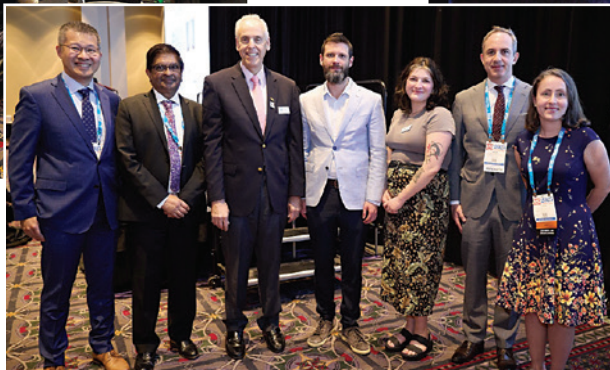
One of the most well-received events this year was our second webinar of the fiscal cycle, titled “How to Stay in Ortho Education for 30 Years or Longer.” I had the honor of moderating this panel, which featured experienced academic leaders including Dr. Sarandeep Huja, Dr. Laura Iwasaki, Dr.

Henry Fields, Dr. James A. McNamara, and Dr. Bhavna Shroff. The session offered insightful reflections on sustaining long-term academic careers and was highly praised by attendees.

We also hosted two additional webinars during the first quarter of 2025. On January 21, Dr. Carla Evans, Toni Magni, and their team presented “Integrating Clinical Informatics into Orthodontic Education,” followed by a second webinar on February 18 titled “Integrating Clinical Informatics and Standards.” Both events were offered free to SOE members and addressed the growing relevance of informatics and data-driven approaches in clinical education.

Our Annual SOE Conference took place on Thursday, April 24, 2025, in Philadelphia, just before the AAO Annual Session. The conference featured a keynote address by the esteemed Dr. James A. McNamara. The event ran from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm, and included a networking lunch and a post-session reception. It provided a dynamic forum for orthodontic educators to gather, share knowledge, and engage in professional development.

Throughout the year, we continued to encourage active participation from our members. On behalf of SOE, I thank MASO for its continued support. ■



# AAO FOUNDATION

Summer 2025



## HONORING EXCELLENCE: RECOGNITION AT AAO FOUNDATION CELEBRATION BREAKFAST IN PHILLY

At this year's annual conference, we had the distinct pleasure of recognizing two exceptional individuals whose dedication and service have made a lasting impact on our community.

**Dr. Orhan Tuncay** was awarded the prestigious **Eugene & Pauline Blair Distinguished Service Award**, a reflection of his unwavering commitment, leadership, and contributions to the field. His work has elevated the profession and inspired countless colleagues and students.

**Dr. Nicholas Barone** received the **Raymond George, Sr. Award for Outstanding Volunteer Service** in honor of his generous spirit and tireless dedication. His volunteer efforts have touched the lives of many children who were lacking access to care for orthodontic treatment.

We extend our heartfelt congratulations to Dr. Tuncay and Dr. Barone for their well-deserved recognition. Their passion and service exemplify the very best of our community.



## THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE NEXT GENERATION OF ORTHODONTISTS

Thanks to your generous support, we were able to provide incentives for **429 orthodontic residents** to attend our annual conference through the **Fred A. Garrett Resident Education Program**. Your contributions made it possible for these future leaders to connect, learn, and grow within our professional community.

We are deeply grateful for your investment in their journey — and in the future of orthodontics.







## AAO FOUNDATION GRANT APPLICATIONS OPEN JULY 1

The AAO Foundation is pleased to announce that grant applications for the 2025–2026 funding cycle will be accepted from July 1 through October 10, 2025 at 5pm CT.

Orthodontic educators and researchers are encouraged to apply for funding to support projects that advance the specialty and improve patient care. The Foundation supports a range of initiatives, including faculty development, research, and programs that foster innovation in orthodontics.

Detailed information about eligibility, grant categories, and submission guidelines will be available on the AAO Foundation website. We encourage all potential applicants to begin preparing early and take advantage of this opportunity to further their academic and clinical contributions.

If you have questions about the application process, please contact George Reinman, Jr. in the AAO Foundation office at [greinarman@aaortho.org](mailto:greinarman@aaortho.org)

### Fundraising Goal

**\$1,800,000**



**Raised  
\$1,176,255**

## FACULTY FELLOWSHIPS

After the House of Delegates meeting last Spring, the AAO Foundation initiated a fundraising campaign to endow the future of the specialty by creating a fund to be matched dollar for dollar up to \$1.8 million by AAO. Fulltime Faculty Fellowships have been part of AAO since 2008, took about a 7-year hiatus and began again in 2019. The long-term viability of this fund is the impetus for the **For the Future** campaign. The Foundation will raise \$1.8 million to be matched by AAO for a \$3.6 million fund. The fundraising began in August, 2024 and has raised **\$1,176,255 - 66% of our goal** through May 22, 2025. This is a three-year initiative from the House of Delegates and the AAO Foundation and HOD meet regularly to receive regular reports. The Foundation is approaching Individuals, corporations, and foundations to reach our goal. Thank you to those Constituencies who have committed their gift to the campaign.

## CONSTITUENT SUPPORT

**SAO/SWSO**  
**\$30,000**

- Florida: \$10,000
- Virginia: \$10,000
- South Carolina: \$10,000
- North Carolina: \$7,500
- Louisiana: \$3,000

**MASO**  
**\$50,000**

- Delaware  
\$1,000

**GLAO**  
**\$30,000**

**RMSO**  
**\$5,000**



## YOUR SUPPORT OF GORP AND THE FUTURE OF ORTHODONTICS

The AAO Foundation extends its heartfelt thanks to our generous donors for supporting the Graduate Orthodontic Residents Program (GORP). Your contributions make this invaluable experience possible for orthodontic residents from across the country. We're excited to announce that the Foundation is proud to sponsor GORP 2025 in Kentucky, where residents will come together to connect, learn, and build lasting professional relationships. GORP continues to play a vital role in fostering a strong sense of community among the next generation of orthodontists. Thanks to your support, we're not only enriching the resident experience — we're investing in the future of our specialty.



**GORP 2024 - University of Michigan**

## RESIDENT OPPORTUNITY: SERVE ON THE AAO FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The AAO Foundation is committed to supporting the next generation of orthodontic leaders — and that includes providing residents with a voice at the table.

We're excited to offer orthodontic residents the opportunity to serve a one-year term on the AAO Foundation Board of Directors. This unique position allows a resident to contribute directly to the Foundation's mission, gain valuable leadership experience, and represent the perspectives of peers nationwide.

The selected resident board member will participate in meetings, collaborate with leaders across the profession, and help shape the future of orthodontic philanthropy and support.

Interested residents should scan the QR code and complete the Google Form to express interest in this meaningful leadership role. Together, we can ensure the voice of the future continues to guide our work.



Dr. Sapna Nath  
UPENN

Dr. Navi Bharj  
British Columbia



## Foundation Staff:

**Brett Schott**, Vice President

[bschott@aaortho.org](mailto:bschott@aaortho.org)

**Mindy Copp**, Sr. Specialist, Marketing & Development

[mcopp@aaortho.org](mailto:mcopp@aaortho.org)

**George Reinerman, Jr.** - Program Specialist

[greinarman@aaortho.org](mailto:greinarman@aaortho.org)

**Tabitha Smith** - Program Administrator - Gifted Smiles

[tsmith@aaortho.org](mailto:tsmith@aaortho.org)





## 2025 - 2027 STRATEGIC PLAN

Prepared by Kate Brunswick, CAE President, Accent on Management

### STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS

This Strategic Plan sets forth a set of goals, strategies, and tactics to propel MASO toward a more vibrant future as a regional constituent of the American Association of Orthodontists.

The 2025-2027 Strategic Plan was developed in four broad steps:

1. Strategic planning facilitator Kate Brunswick conducted an evaluation survey of the MASO Board to examine progress and successes from the 2020-2023 Strategic Plan.
2. Brunswick conducted a member assessment survey that went to all 1,400 MASO members, identifying the association's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats.
3. A working session with the MASO Board fleshed out association goals and accompanying strategies for accomplishing them.
4. Based on key themes from the Member Survey and the working session outcomes, Brunswick prepared a draft strategic plan and sent it to the Board of Directors for input and adoption.

### IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 2025-2027 STRATEGIC PLAN

The 2025-2027 Strategic Plan is both aspirational and inspirational; as such, it serves as an active guide for MASO leadership and staff team members in the coming three-year time horizon.

This 2025-2027 Strategic Plan continues a three-year cycle of planning exercises and documents. The plan offers a high-level overview of goals, strategies, and tactics that form a call to action for which MASO leadership, the staff team, and members of MASO should work together toward implementation. Tactics within the plan may be considered the framework for a three-year Action Plan as well as an annual Operating Plan, which becomes the foundation for metrics and measurements of success.

### MASO'S MISSION AND GOALS

*MASO Mission: The Middle Atlantic Society of Orthodontists, a constituent of the American Association of Orthodontists, shall promote ethical and quality orthodontic care while advocating and providing a voice for our members, components, and educational institutions.*

MASO Strategic Goals:

- ✧ Enhance Member Engagement
- ✧ Strengthen Connections
- ✧ Elevate the Organization

**GOAL I. ENHANCE MEMBER ENGAGEMENT** – Increase member knowledge and engagement through targeted programs and communication strategies that foster connection, participation, and community.

**A. Communications.** Broaden efforts to meaningfully reach every member.

1. Consider alternate ways to communicate with members, outside of email. Be deliberate in communicating via alternate methods.

2. Strive to continually improve the quality of content delivered to members through the MASO Journal.
3. Using content from the MASO Journal, develop an e-news brief to provide more frequent communications to members.

**B. Networking.** Meet members where they are, providing them with compelling programs and resources for meaningful connections.

1. Offer area-specific networking social events for residents and active members (even retired members) to provide opportunities for connection.
2. Use networking events (in different formats, including virtual) to connect opportunities with orthodontists in underserved areas.
3. To provide continuous support to residents after graduation, create a Young Graduate Program based on the MASO Resident Program.

**C. Annual Session.** Through the Annual Session, become an unfailing resource for professionals of all career stages serving as a platform for them to acquire valuable professional and business skills.

1. Develop CE programs based on member needs. Regularly survey members on most pressing issues for CE programs.
2. Use CE sessions to provide training for staff certifications.
3. Provide CE offerings beyond clinical, including soft skills training focused on time management, succession planning, financial management, recruiting and retaining staff.

**GOAL II. STRENGTHEN CONNECTIONS** – Establish MASO as the connector between AAO, the state components, and MASO members by serving as the conduit for information and resources.

**A. AAO.** Establish MASO as the bridge between AAO and members.

1. Provide access to AAO resources through programs at the MASO Annual Session and articles in the MASO Journal.
2. Communicate with other AAO constituent organizations, peer-to-peer via each organization's president-elect.
3. Continue to shape the future of the profession by engaging and supporting MASO representatives to the AAO House of Delegates annual meeting.

**B. State components.** Engage with state components to strengthen the profession and identify future leaders.

1. Re-establish the practice of the MASO president attending at least one meeting of each of the state components. Use these opportunities for two-way communication.
2. Establish a calendar of each state component's meetings throughout the year. Advertise these meetings to MASO members.
3. Connect regularly with component presidents by inviting them to MASO board meetings. Develop mutually agreed upon expectations for participation and outcomes.

**GOAL III. ELEVATE THE ORGANIZATION** – Develop current and future leaders through programs, mentoring, and establishment of best practices in association management.

**A. Communicate.** Ensure that MASO reviews and updates internal and external communications.

1. Establish the practice of regularly updating the MASO website to remove dated information and add current information.
2. Update and keep current the MASO Manual of Procedures.

**B. Govern.** Establish best practices for non-profit governance models.

1. Establish an annual Board Orientation program for new and returning members of the MASO Board of Directors. Include information on MASO leadership opportunities, policies and procedures, and non-profit governance.
2. Implement an annual Board self-evaluation for members of the MASO Board to communicate their experience serving in leadership.
3. Review relevancy and purpose of MASO standing committees and update committee charters to align with MASO's mission and goals.

**C. Mentor.** Develop a formalized mentorship program, providing opportunities for professional growth and engagement.

1. Formalize mentorship opportunities for residents and be a resource to them.
2. Facilitate mentorship of first time attendees at the MASO Annual Session by members of the MASO Board of Directors.





## NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Dr. Dave Harmon

Slate was presented to the Board by the Nominating Committee Chair, **Dr. Dave Harmon**, during a MASO Board Meeting Conference Call on June 23, 2025.

The slate will be approved by the membership during the Annual Session MASO Member/Business Meeting on Saturday, September 27, 2025.

The Nominating Committee consists of eight (8) members: The Immediate Past President, the prior immediate past president, and six members, one from each MASO component. The President of each MASO component, or a designee, is given preference for this position. The senior Past President is Chairperson of the Committee. Each is to serve for one year.

### Nominating Committee Members for 2025-26

1. Dr. Dave Harmon, Prior (senior) Immediate Past President, Chair
2. Dr. Omid Rajaei, Immediate Past President
3. Dr. Jean Asmar, representing DC
4. Dr. Natalie Miller, President
5. Dr. Mark Fiss, President DE
6. Dr. Shalin Shah, President NJ
7. Dr. Eric Torres, President PR
8. Dr. Brittany Franklin, President-elect PA

Elections are held at the Annual Session during the General Membership meeting. (Term year: Annual Session to Annual Session) Directors, in general, will serve for a total of six years (two three-year terms) before becoming eligible for the position of President-Elect. Under special circumstances, a Director/Officer may continue on the Board for one additional year to maintain the order of succession.

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

**Term:**  
PRESIDENT: Dr. Paul Batistini (NJ) ..... 2025-26  
PRESIDENT ELECT: Dr. Lynette Garcia (PR) ..... 2025-26  
**NOMINATE**  
SECRETARY: Dr. Tejy Thomas (PA) ..... 2024-26  
TREASURER: Dr. Brienne Flagg (DE) (*nominated by the Board*) ..... 2025-27  
IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT: Dr. Sana Augustus (DC) ..... 2025-26  
TRUSTEE: Dr. Lawrence Wang (MD) ..... 2025-27

### DIRECTORS

As a result of the newly adopted Bylaws, Directors now serve two three-year terms:

- Term:**
1. Dr. Mark McDonough (NJ) ..... 2025-28  
*Will be starting the 1st year of his second 3-year term*
  2. Dr. Jose Bosio (MD) ..... 2023-26  
*Will be starting the 3rd year of his first 3-year term*
  3. Dr. Carmen Doumit (PA) ..... 2024-27  
*Will be starting the 2nd year of her first 3-year term*
  4. Dr. Padma Mukherjee (NJ) ..... 2025-28

**NOMINATE**

### DELEGATES (6)

Six (6) delegates are elected to the AAO for a two-year term; no more than three (3) consecutive terms may be served; past delegates are required to wait one (1) year before being re-nominated.

1. Dr. Edmund Khoo (DC) ..... 2025-27  
**NOMINATE**
2. Dr. Richard Isaacson (NJ) ..... 2024-26  
*Dr. Isaacson is completing his 1ST year of his 3rd two-year term.*
3. Dr. Ty Saini (MD) ..... 2024-26  
*Dr. Saini is completing his 1st year of his 2nd two-year term.*
4. Dr. Jean McGill (PA) ..... 2024-26  
*Dr. McGill is completing her 1ST year of her 2nd two-year term*
5. Dr. Lara Minahan (MD) ..... 2024-26  
*Dr. Minahan is completing her 1st year of her 1st two-year term*
6. Dr. Jean Asmar (DC) ..... 2024-26  
*Dr. Asmar is completing his 1st year of his 1st two-year term*

### ALTERNATE DELEGATES (3)

Alternate delegates are elected to serve a one-year term; no more than two consecutive terms may be served before an individual is either elected as a Delegate or removed from the delegation. The MASO President will serve as the First Alternate and the MASO President-Elect as Second Alternate.

1. Dr. Paul Batastini (NJ) (*As required by MASO MOP*) ..... 2025-26  
(MASO President)
2. Dr. Lynette Garcia (PR) (*As required by MASO MOP*) ..... 2025-26  
(MASO President Elect)
3. Dr. Monica Schneider (MD) ..... 2025-26

**NOMINATE**

### MASO COMMITTEES

#### I. **Communications/Publications**

Consists of the MASO Editor and four (3) at-large members elected for a 3-year term.

1. Dr. Normand Boucher (PA) **Chair/Editor** ..... 2025-28
2. Dr. Anh Dao (MD) ..... 2023-26
3. Dr. Billy Buckbinder (NJ) ..... 2024-27
4. Dr. Tara Sheehan (MD) ..... 2025-28

**NOMINATE**

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## NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 36

### II. Education/Research (Should be a full- or part-time educator) Consists of three (3) members elected for a 3-year term.

1. Dr. Brunilda Ortiz-Giuliani (PR) .....2023-26
2. Dr. Anil Ardeshta (NJ) .....2024-27
3. Dr. Flavio Copello (MD).....2025-28

NOMINATE

### III. Government Affairs

Consists of six (6) members, two to be elected each year, for a 3-year term.

**NOTE: Chair to be elected by the Nominating Committee**

1. Dr. Jennifer Morrison (NJ) .....2023-26
2. Dr. Elise Tigani Endres (DC) .....2023-26

3. Dr. Briana McRae (MD) .....2023-26
4. Dr. Mark Fiss (DE) .....2024-27
5. Dr. David Harmon (MD) .....2024-27
6. Intentionally Left Empty (Committee to re-organize) .....2025-28

### IV. Member Services: Membership/Ethics/Practice Transition

Consists of five (5) members elected to a 5-year term

1. Ambar Mier Lopez (PR, **Chair**) .....2021-26
2. Dr. Natalie Miller (MD)) .....2022-27
3. Dr. Catherine Campbell Worthington (MD) .....2022-27
4. Dr. Anthony Suriano (NJ) .....2023-28
5. Dr. Su Lee (DC).....2025-30

NOMINATE ■

## Aligner Recycling is Here!

Congratulations to MASO for taking a major stand for sustainability! After two years of hard work, we were incredibly proud to present the first-ever national, comprehensive orthodontic recycling program this past Earth Day. The **Tiny Changes Recycling Program** is run by MASO's Sustainability Committee yet is available to any orthodontist in the contiguous United States. We are hoping to offer the program in Canada soon as well. Our custom recycling boxes accept ALL BRANDS of new and used aligners plus lots of other plastic waste including 3D-printed models.

As of June 2025, we have 343 offices participating and that number is growing every day. 37% of these offices are within MASO. Special thank-you to Zendura Orthodontic Materials, our biggest sponsor.

Please support our efforts by utilizing the Tiny Changes program. This is an amazing opportunity for us as a specialty to show our patients and the dental community that we care about the environment. For more info and to sign up, check us out at [maso.org](https://maso.org). You can also follow our impact and join our community @tinygreenchanges.

Thank you for taking a stand for sustainability, one tiny change at a time! ■







## **Delaware State Dental Society** **Dr. Mark R. Fiss**

The Annual Delaware State Society of Orthodontics (DSSO) meeting was held on April 3, 2025, at the Wilmington Country Club. The DSSO was proud to introduce the newest members to the society. Drs. Peter Sulaiman, Gia Yi, and Xing Zhu were

welcomed with open arms by the members in attendance.

While reviewing the concerns of the membership, the DSSO voted unanimously to dissolve the DSSO coverage

agreement. The DSSO also voted unanimously to send a \$1000 check on behalf of its members to the AAOPAC as a show of appreciation to those who continue to support the specialty of orthodontics, and another check of in the amount \$1000 on behalf of its members to the AAOF to support to orthodontic education programs and orthodontic research.

The DSSO remains steadfast in addressing its members' concerns as new challenges arise, and it will continue to focus on opportunities to engage members at all levels, including local, regional, and national. The DSSO looks forward to being well represented at the 2025 Annual Session in Washington, DC. ■



## **Maryland Society of Orthodontists** **Dr. Natalie Miller**

The Maryland State Society of Orthodontists (MSSO) has hosted two virtual seminars so far in 2025. The first featured Dr. Flavia Artese, who delivered two insightful presentations: "Vertical Problems: Not Challenging, Just Misunderstood" and "The Bright and Dark Sides of Interproximal Reduction." The second seminar was led by Dr. Trevor Nichols, who presented on "Aesthetic Finishing Solutions in Orthodontics."

At the beginning of the year, MSSO participated in a meeting at the Maryland State Dental Association (MSDA)

headquarters, joining representatives from various dental specialties to discuss current challenges and priorities in the field. MSSO also successfully collaborated with the MSDA legislative committee, providing testimony before the Maryland General Assembly in support of amendments to a key bill affecting the licensing of dental and orthodontic assistants.

The current MSSO board includes: Natalie Miller (President), Ariana Feizi (President-Elect), Omar Elnabawi (Secretary-Treasurer), Flavio Copello (Director), and Michael Powers (Director).

Two additional seminars will be scheduled for Fall 2025 to continue offering valuable continuing education opportunities for our members. ■



## **New Jersey Association of Orthodontists** **Dr. Shalin R. Shah**

Hello from New Jersey!

With sunshine in our hearts and purpose in our mission, the New Jersey Association of Orthodontists (NJAO) shares its deepest gratitude to the Middle Atlantic Society of Orthodontists (MASO) and all who help our profession thrive. Together, we are not just building practices—we're building legacy, unity, and love.

This past year has been one of purpose, growth, and celebration. We began our CE journey with Dr. Cory Costanzo, who inspired us with his insights on SureSmile and practice design, and

continued our winter series with dynamic speakers, including Dr. Jerry Teplitz on brain performance and leadership, Ryan Williams on AI's evolving impact in orthodontics, and Monica Martinez on HIPAA compliance and cybersecurity.

Most recently, we gathered in person with our teams for an incredible day of learning and laughter with Dr. Dan Bills, whose blend of heart and humor left us energized and aligned. We're so grateful to all of our speakers for teaching not just with their minds, but with their hearts.

Dr. Sal Carcara, our CE Chair, continues to be the maestro of meaningful learning, and we're lucky to have his brilliance steering our educational vision. We also want to recognize

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# COMPONENT NEWS

Dana, our Executive Secretary, whose behind-the-scenes magic makes it all come together seamlessly—thank you for making miracles look like checklists.

And with hearts full of joy, we celebrate two beautiful additions to our NJAO family. Dr. Cassandra Kahn (Vice President) and Dr. Khushali Shah (Treasurer) each welcomed a precious new baby this year. Our NJAO family just got a little bigger—and infinitely more adorable.

As we turn the page to the rest of 2025 and into early 2026, we are excited to share our upcoming CE lineup:

Friday, October 24, 2025  
FALL SESSION – 6-HOUR IN-PERSON DAY

Wednesday, December 10, 2025  
WINTER SESSION 1 – 2-HOUR ONLINE

Thursday, January 8, 2026  
WINTER SESSION 2 – 2-HOUR ONLINE

Wednesday, February 11, 2026  
WINTER SESSION 3 – 2-HOUR ONLINE

Friday, March 20, 2026  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – IN-PERSON with teams/staff invited

As always, we also look ahead, with work still to be done. Issues such as credentialing and hiring within our state remain challenging, but our Board is not backing down. We believe in collective action. The best outcomes come from shared effort, and our Board is continually looking to grow to feed the present and forever change the future.

From all of us at the NJAO: thank you for walking beside us. Let's keep smiling forward—with love, with unity, and with purpose.

With love from your NJAO Family,

Shalin, the NJAO Board, and our NJAO Family! ■



**Puerto Rico  
Society of Orthodontists**  
Dr. Eric X. Torres

Our spring semester has been a meaningful period of reconnection, professional growth, and celebration for the Sociedad de Especialistas en Ortodoncia de Puerto Rico (SEOPR).

We started the semester with SEO Valentín, a joyful friendship gathering on February 22, 2025, where a large part of our membership came together to enjoy camaraderie and strengthen our bonds as colleagues.

On March 18, 2025, we hosted a virtual seminar titled “Beyond Braces: Introduction to Light Force”, presented by the esteemed Dr. Jeff Rothenberg, of Brilliant Rothenberg Orthodontics, Aventura, FL. The session was well-attended and provided participants with valuable insight into emerging technologies in orthodontic practice. Looking ahead, we are excited to announce several upcoming events. On June 26, 2025, we will offer a hybrid seminar (virtual and in-person) titled “Balancing Evidence and Experience in Everyday Orthodontics,” led by Dr. Graham Jones of Monroe, Washington. This session will blend scientific evidence with clinical wisdom to support informed decision-making in orthodontic treatment.

Our annual assembly is scheduled for October 4, 2025, and will include a continuing education component as part of our ongoing commitment to professional excellence.

We are especially pleased to share that in December 2025, we will revive our traditional Holiday Gathering, which had been paused for the past two years. This event promises to be a warm and festive opportunity to celebrate the year's accomplishments and reconnect with colleagues in a relaxed and joyful setting. ■







**ALBERT EINSTEIN  
MEDICAL CENTER**  
Dr. Vanessa Morenzi

## Resident Activities

Along with our graduating 3rd year residents, **Drs. Jessica Azer, Alison Novakovic, and Seung (Hannah) Yu** and our rising 3rd year residents, **Drs. Ana Maria Male, Alexander Stanco and Nicoletta Venturini**, I will welcome those who will enter our program at the end of June 2025. They are:

- **Dr. Michelle Haykin** who completed a 2-year long GPR at Long Island Jewish Hospital and is practicing in a multispecialty practice on Long Island. Dr. Haykin completed her dental studies at the University of Pennsylvania.
- **Dr. Jordan Jackson** who completed an AEGD through the Navy, was stationed on the USS Norfolk. He is currently practicing general dentistry at the US Naval Academy. Dr. Jackson graduated from dental school at the University of Maryland.
- **Dr. Haley Lockstein** who is completing her 2nd year as chief resident at Jefferson Einstein GPR and graduated from Temple School of Dentistry. Dr. Lockstein is a Philadelphia area native.

**Dr. Michael Roth**, our Associate Program Director, and I extend our gratitude to the members of the Application Review, Selection, and Interview Committees – **Drs. Alan Borislow, Steven Cohen, Charles Gemmi, Peter Greco, Audra Kiefer, Michael Kotecki, Harold Middleberg, Courtney Rubin, Adam Weiss**, and the residents, for graciously serving on these committees. We also sincerely thank each of our volunteer and part-time faculty for their invaluable support and dedication to the program and for the education of our residents. Without the valued commitment of our part-time faculty, it would be impossible to provide the quality educational experience we pride ourselves on. We are indebted to each of our community-based clinicians who give of their time to teach and mentor our residents.

## Class of 2025 Update:

**Dr. Jessica Azer** joined a private practice in New Jersey and has also joined our faculty for Case Conferences.

As a 3rd year resident, Dr. Azer presented her research at the Albert Einstein Medical Center's Research Recognition Week in May 2023 alongside the other medical disciplines within the hospital. Her research was entitled "The Impact of Congenitally Missing Third Molars on the Development and Eruption of the Adjacent Second Molars in Like Quadrant". Her research involved whether congenitally missing third molars lead to delayed development or eruption of associated second molars using patients from our clinic and a faculty private practice. Her research mentor was **Dr. Adam Weiss**. Dr. Azer presented a clinical case at the AAO Annual Session in Philadelphia which was recognized by CDABO by an award. Dr. Azer treated this case with Dr. Adam Weiss at the attending faculty member. Dr. Azer also presented her research to the Dental Department as part of Fogel Grand Rounds in May 2025. In February 2025, Dr. Azer submitted a clinical case report, that spanned many disciplines and departments within the hospital, to the Albert Einstein Medical Center Case Report Competition. Her case was chosen to be presented to the Medical Center.

**Dr. Alison Novakovic** is back in her home state of Florida in a private practice in the Tampa area.

As a 3rd year resident, Dr. Novakovic presented her research at the Albert Einstein Medical Center's Research Recognition Week in May 2025 alongside the other medical disciplines within the hospital. Her research was entitled "Clear Aligner Cleanability: Digital Evaluation versus the Clinical Eye". Her research mentor was Dr. Adam Weiss. The results of her research indicated that coffee stain removal from Invisalign trays using four commonly used cleaning agents using both computer-based evaluation as well as indirect clinical evaluations by orthodontists was most effective when Invisalign Crystals are used followed by use of Retainer Brite use or a hand-mixed White Vinegar solution. The least effective was use of Hydrogen Peroxide when compared to the other agents. Dr. Novakovic also presented her research to the Dental Department as part of Fogel Grand Rounds in May 2025. In February 2025, Dr. Novakovic submitted a clinical case report, that spanned many disciplines and departments within the hospital, to the Albert Einstein Medical Center Case Report Competition. Her case was chosen to be presented to the Medical Center.

**Dr. Hannah (Seung) Yu** is an associate in private practice in Pennsylvania and has joined our teaching faculty.

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As a 3rd year resident, Dr. Yu presented her research at the Albert Einstein Medical Center's Research Recognition Week in May 2025 alongside the other medical disciplines within the hospital. Her research was entitled "Class II Relationship to the Skeletal Lengths of the Ramus and the Inclination of the Posterior Border of the Ramus". Dr. Yu was able to establish that, in this pilot study using CBCTs, that there is no statistically significant relationship established between mandibular skeletal asymmetries and Class II subdivision malocclusion. Dr. Yu also presented her research to the Dental Department as part of Fogel Grand Rounds in May 2025. In February 2025, Dr. Yu submitted a clinical case report, that spanned many disciplines and departments within the hospital, to the Albert Einstein Medical Center Case Report Competition. Her case was chosen to be presented to the Medical Center.

The Jefferson Einstein Ortho Class of 2025 is grateful to their faculty and teachers for their unending, and generous, efforts in preparing them to enter the orthodontic profession.

## **Class of 2026 Update:**

The Class of 2026 is busy with the care of their transfer patients from the Class of 2025, their care of their own patients that they started, as well as with teaching and integrating the Class of 2028 into our program, Department and hospital culture.

Program Leadership is happy to report that all 3 members of the Class of 2026 passed their ABO Written Boards given in April 2025. The Class of 2026 is grateful to all of their faculty members who contributed to their success with this outcomes assessment.

For her research, **Dr. Ana Maria Male** is investigating the width of maxillary central incisors and their impact on the necessity for extractions and treatment outcomes in patients in our orthodontic residency program. **Dr. Alex Stanco** is investigating silver diamine fluoride (SDF) and its effect on bond strength of orthodontic bands followed by in vitro testing of the caries rate for teeth which received SDF prior to banding and **Dr. Nicoletta Venturini** is conducting a retrospective study on the outcomes of patients treated in our clinic with TAD-supported maxillary expansion in conjunction with our colleagues at UPenn Ortho.

## **Faculty Activities**

We wish to offer our heartfelt thanks and heartiest congratulations to our decades-long faculty member, **Dr.**

**Alan Borislow**, on his recent retirement from 60 years of clinical involvement at Einstein Ortho. Dr. Borislow will continue to attend, and support, resident learning at our bimonthly Case Conferences. We were all very happy that, as an alumni group, we were able to offer our personal thanks to Dr. Borislow at our Alumni Social gathering at the AAO Annual Session in Philadelphia.

**Dr. Peter Greco** continues as an integral member of our faculty as well as continuing his other professional commitments including his regular contribution to the AJODO and to the Angle Society.

Although **Dr. Harold Middleberg** retired from clinical private practice at the end of the past year, he is still a very active faculty member at Einstein Ortho. He continues as a clinical attending while teaching at Case Conferences and as the Course Director for our Practice Management and Transition to Private Practice courses. For the incoming classes, he directs the Banding and Bonding modules.

**Dr. Mark McDonough** continues to represent our program through his membership on the MASO Board of Directors. Additionally, Dr. McDonough continues his teaching clinically as well as his vital position as Course Director for our Laser Program, and Digital Clinical Record integration including Clinical Photography.

Our long-standing faculty member, **Dr. Steve Cohen**, in addition to his clinical and didactic teaching here at Einstein, continues in his long-held position as Secretary-Treasurer of GPSO (Greater Philadelphia Society of Orthodontists).

We welcome to our newest faculty members, **Dr. Susan Lempert** and **Dr. Elizabeth Soulas**, to the Jefferson Einstein Ortho Family. Dr. Lempert is in private practice in New Jersey and teaches with us on Wednesday afternoons. Dr. Soulas is in private practice in Pennsylvania and has joined us on Friday mornings with the residents. Both will be teaching clinically and didactically. We are very excited to have them join our program and look forward to their many contributions to the education of the residents and the care of our patients.

All are welcome to come and visit us on the second floor of the Paley Building at Jefferson Einstein Philadelphia Hospital. We are proud of our legacy and the residents that we are educating today who will become tomorrow's clinical and professional leaders. ■



# GRADUATE PROGRAM REPORTS



## CTOR ACADEMY

Dr. Mani Alikhani

CTOR Academy is a new program, which means we are hitting milestones on a regular basis. Some milestones are more noteworthy than others and this Spring we will hit a truly major milestone for CTOR Academy. We are graduating our first class!

### THE CLASS OF 2025

Our Class of 2025 students are:

- **Eric Halejian, DDS** – University of Maryland
- **Shamelly Diaz, DDS** - PUC in the Dominican Republic
- **Khalil Lion, DDS, MPH** – The Syrian Private University in Damascus, Syria
- **Maria Muñoz, DMD, MS** – University of Puerto Rico
- **Hala Elsamna, DMD** – Rutgers University
- **Dayoon Lee, DDS** – New York University



From their arrival at CTOR Academy in July 2022 until now, three years later, the Class of 2025 have been trailblazers. The faculty have enjoyed watching each of them grow into their new profession as they prepare to strike out on their own. We congratulate our new graduates from CTOR Academy and all of their new colleagues from schools around the country!

### THE CLASS OF 2026

Our Class of 2026 students are:

- **Bassam Butto, DDS** – UCLA
- **Chie Hung (Alain) Hu, DMD** – Midwestern University
- **Jenna Heitzler, DDS** – SUNY Buffalo
- **Leelah Weitz, DDS** – Columbia University
- **Vincent DeMaio, DDS** – Columbia University
- **Maxwell Herszage, DDS** – Columbia University

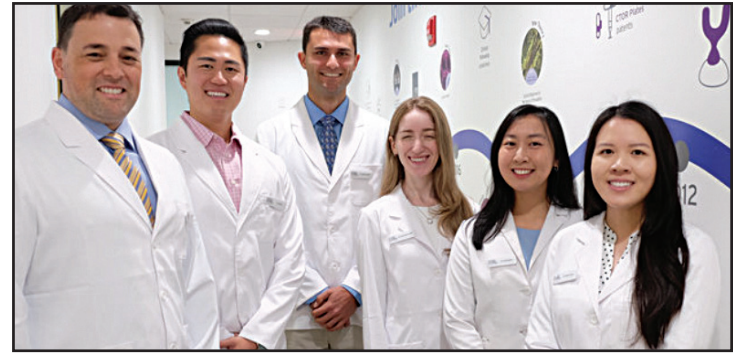


This class is now finishing their second year and finishing many of their cases. As they progress through the program, it is exciting to see their diagnostic and treatment planning skills steadily improve. As the new senior class, they are finishing up their complex cases and finalizing their research projects, all while making their post-graduation plans!

### THE CLASS OF 2027

Our Class of 2027 students are:

- **Robert Spielman, DDS** – New York University
- **Bill Kim, DDS** – New York University
- **Jacob Gussert, DDS** – Indiana University-Purdue University
- **Samantha Schnall, DMD** – Columbia University
- **Vivian Duong, DDS, MS** – University of the Pacific
- **Ivana Newen, DDS** – New York University



Our first year students are quickly developing their clinical skills as their patient rosters fill up. This is always a momentous time for students as they begin to acquire a deeper understanding of orthodontics and dentofacial orthopedics. They are also starting their research projects and, of course, planning this year's trips to MASO, GORP, etc. We always encourage our students to take time to relax and enjoy the company of their colleagues from across the US!

### “THE FACE” COURSE

In “The Face” course the Class 2026 and their faculty created face sculptures with clay while discussing the concepts of beauty, proportions, the changing face and our identity. This unique experience expands their understanding of the human face beyond the clinical and scientific perspectives. We hosted an exhibit of the finished sculptures at our Annual Holiday



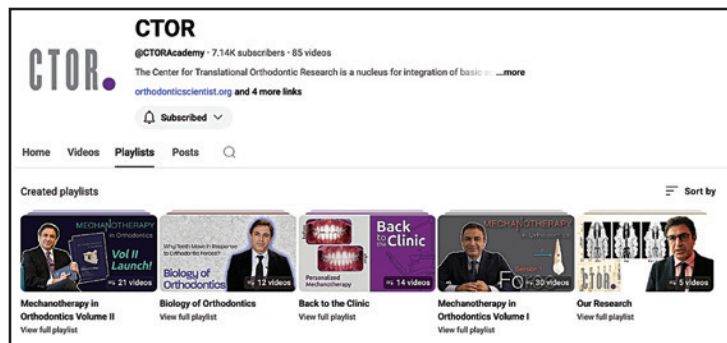


Party. Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics is truly an art and a science!



## CTOR YouTube CHANNEL

We're thrilled to share with you that the CTOR YouTube Channel hit 7,000 subscribers this year, marking a significant milestone in our journey. We want to thank our subscribers for supporting our channel and promoting Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics education. We invite you to visit the CTOR YouTube Channel and watch our different playlists: from our *Mechanotherapy* series to the *Biology of Orthodontics* and *Back to the Clinic*.



## AAO ANNUAL MEETING IN PHILADELPHIA

CTOR Academy Faculty, Students and Staff had an enjoyable and educational visit to Philadelphia for the AAO General Session on April 25-27, 2025. We also hosted our third annual Alumni Reception on April 25. **Dr. Eric Halejian (Class of 2025) was elected the inaugural President of the CTOR Academy Alumni Association.** We know that the Alumni Association is in good hands, as Dr. Halejian is deeply committed to our specialty and our colleagues.



Third Annual CTOR Alumni Reception. CTOR Academy faculty, students, staff and friends gathered to share stories of their adventures from the last year. Dr. Eric Halejian (back row, far right) was welcomed as the first President of the CTOR Academy Alumni Association.



CTOR Academy students and faculty enjoying breakfast in Philadelphia. No better way to start the day at AAO!

## CODA SITE VISITORS

**Dr. Jeanne M. Nervina** (Associate Dean of Academic Affairs and Program Director) and **Dr. Edmund Khoo** (Chairman) have been selected to join CODA's Site Visitors. Dr. Nervina will join the Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics and the Craniofacial and Special Care Orthodontics rosters, while Dr. Khoo will join the Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics roster. As lifelong academicians, both Dr. Nervina and Dr. Khoo recognize the important role that CODA Site Visitors have in ensuring that all residents and fellows receive an education that meets rigorous standards.

## ORTHODONTICS RESEARCH GROUP (ORG) AT THE IADR

Several CTOR Academy Faculty will be sworn in as ORG officers during this year's IADR General Session in Barcelona, Spain, June 25-28, 2025. **Dr. Marcos Giovanetti** will serve as President and **Dr. Chinapa Sangsuwon** will serve as Secretary/Treasurer. Each of them brings extensive research and leadership experience to their new positions, ensuring that ORG will continue to bring orthodontists and craniofacial researchers together to share their research findings and ideas.

## ORG AWARDS COMPETITION AT THE IADR

CTOR continues to sponsor two ORG awards competitions at IADR. Students are encouraged to enter the **IADR CTOR Award for Student Excellence in Orthodontics**. This is open to ORG dental students, residents and graduate students who have conducted research in Orthodontics.

CTOR also sponsors the **INNOVATION Award for Excellence in Orthodontics Research**. This competition is open to ORG researchers at any level who are pushing the boundaries of innovative research in Orthodontics.

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For those of you looking for additional ORG awards competitions to enter, you should also consider the **Growth and Development Research Award**, which is open all ORG members and is sponsored by Wiley-Blackwell. ORG also sponsors a Travel Award to help ORG attendees defray some of their costs.

### NEW JERSEY SECTION OF THE AADOCR

Closer to home, the New Jersey section of the AADOCR will welcome **Dr. Jeanne Nervina** as its new President and **Dr. Mona Alikhani** as its new Councilor for 2025. As committed researchers and leaders, each of them look to promote NJ Section member engagement in scientific discourse and collaboration.

### CTOR ACADEMY FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

After publishing the last article in the series of “Theory of Form” (available for download from the open access *Journal INNOVATION*) our faculty are working on a series of case reports highlighting some of CTOR’s innovative tools and personalized Mechanotherapy that allows treatment of severe skeletal problems without surgery.

DeMaio V, Abdullah F, Sangsuwon C, Teixeira CC, Alikhani M. *Correction of Skeletal Class III Malocclusion in Adults: A Novel Non-Surgical Approach*. 2025. *Innovation*. 3(1)e4. Doi:10.30771/2025.1. ■



### HOWARD UNIVERSITY

**Dr. Kathy L. Marshall**

Our program highlights this academic year include the successful ABO Board exam completion of our most recent graduating class. With our committed faculty, staff and residents, we celebrate their achievements.

The program welcomes our exceptional July 2025, incoming residents:

**Drs. Gianna Muse** (Howard University) and **Yonathan Yosef** (Nova Southeastern University) from Maryland, **Dr. Kyle Anthony Alfred** (Columbia University) from Florida, **Dr. Chelsea Elokobi** (University of Detroit Mercy) from Ohio, **Dr. Kandis Carter** (University of Alabama at Birmingham, U.S. Navy) from Louisiana and **Dr. Ourai Olanipekun** (University of Colorado) from Gambia.

Our continuing 2nd year class: **Drs. Nour Abou-Abdou, Tinashe Chapfika-Johnson, Christian Foster, Tifanni Drew Knight-Lynch, Oreoluwa Lanlokun** and **Samiyra Ojo**. We thank the continuing residents for their diligence and hard work participating in the AAO Advocacy Day, ADEA and AAO Annual Sessions in National Harbor, MD and Philadelphia, PA. Their support of the graduating class and new faculty and staff has been noteworthy.

Our 2025 graduates and their research theses are as follows:

**Dr. Kaelon Guillory**, “Video Gaming as a Training Tool for Manual Dexterity in the Dental Profession”

**Dr. Eithan Lue Chee Lip**, “An Investigation of Techniques to Re-calcify White Spot Lesions”

**Dr. Adem Mahmud**, “Effect of Mouth Rinses, Acidic Beverages, and Abrasive Materials on Orthodontic Appliances”

**Dr. Tangwan Nganteh**, “A Retrospective comparison of Commercially Manufactured and In Office Manufactured Clear Aligners in Treating Non-Extraction Cases with Moderate Crowding”

**Dr. Racine Ramanand**, “An Evaluation of the Impact of the Howard University Orthodontic Residency Program on the Oral Health Workforce”

**Dr. CyVanie Ramkelawan**, “Leaching of Microplastics Materials from Clear Aligners When Exposed to Different Mouthwashes”

The Howard University Orthodontic Department faculty, staff, residents and alumni welcome the new administrative staff and our new predoctoral faculty member, Dr. Rochelle Watson. **The Orthodontic Residents, Staff and Faculty** worked over the fall semester with the Student Affairs office to complete the Student Success and Wellness Center, establishing the hub for access to wellness services and information next to the Orthodontic Department Office and Orthodontic Clinic.

Thank You to All who pitched in and made the Center a reality for the entire College!

Congratulations to **Dr. Sana Augustus**, former full-time faculty member at Howard University, who is hosting the MASO Annual Session in Washington, DC. She will complete her year as MASO President, the first from Howard University to hold this position. Congratulations also to **Dr. Christian Davillier**, our HU alumnus who served as the President of the Virginia Association of Orthodontics, and **Dr. Desirea Scott** who is currently on the RMSO Board!

Howard Orthodontics continues to uphold the mission of our institution: to provide an exemplary education and opportunities for community service and research that promotes patient centered, collaborative care and advocacy for the elimination of health care disparities. As always, we would like to thank the Howard University Orthodontic Alumni Association for their contributions to the program over this past year. ■



**RUTGERS SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE**  
**Dr. David S Briss**

The postgraduate orthodontic department at Rutgers continues to move onward and upward. We are happy to welcome the newest group of postgraduates to our orthodontic family, **Drs. Dayna Shin, Kayla Gorelick, Haesong Lee, Saloni Shah and Qiyana Meng**. This great group of residents come to us with varied backgrounds and are a welcome addition to the program.

The biggest change so far though is that **Dr. Thomas Cangialosi**, the department Chair for the past 14 years, has stepped down as chair. Dr. Cangialosi stepped down almost 50 years to the day after he began his academic career. His contributions to our specialty, first at Columbia and then Rutgers are incalculable. He has overseen the professional education of many orthodontists and personally influenced many. We sincerely thank him for everything he has done for Rutgers and our postgraduate program. While the search for a new chair is still ongoing, **Dr. David Briss** has accepted the position as Acting Chair, in addition to his position as Program Director.

Our current Residents continue to excel. The current PGY3 class, **Drs. Kellie Lee, Hyori Kim, Rumi Lazarova, Athena Fu and Ashley Tran** have recently passed the ABO written exam with excellent results, carrying on a standard of performance excellence. I am also pleased to report that **Dr. Kellie Lee** was selected as the new Chief Resident by a vote of the PG classes and faculty. Dr. Lee's selection as Chief reflects her dedication to the department and willingness to aid in the improvement for all the residents, and I know she will do a great job.

In research news, I am pleased to share that our recent graduate, **Dr. Grace Park**, along with her research mentor and PI **Dr. Anil Ardeshtna**, was awarded the **2025 William S. Kress Research Award** for her MS Thesis work entitled "Volumetric and Linear Palatal Changes in Orthodontic patients With and Without Extractions". This timely and relevant research project adds important knowledge to the field, and we hope to see this work published in a journal very soon.

In our most recent Balbo Day, RSDM's Research Presentation day for predoctoral and postdoctoral research also saw our department well represented. Our current first year resident, **Dr. Dayoung Shin**, along with her research mentor and PI **Dr. Richard Bloomstein**, were awarded 3rd Place in the Clinical Research section for their project entitled "Ultra-low Dose CBCT vs. Traditional Imaging: Optimizing Radiation and Diagnostic Quality." Our orthodontic fellow last year, presented in the Postgraduate Student category, was **Dr. Janzel Garzon**, along with his mentor and PI **Dr. Maxine Strickland**, for their project entitled "Correlating Occlusion with TMJ Condylar Head Position and Posture in Patients using CBCT." Heartfelt congratulations to all the awardees and participants in the research presentation day.

Along with these recent awardees, our research continues to grow in quality and variety. Some of the current projects in the PGY2 class, comprised of **Drs. Thomas Degasperis, Blaze Fraser, Sara Marciano, Soyoung Shin and Hoda Rahimi**, include topics such as the shear strength of orthodontic brackets bonded to ceramic crowns (Fraser), the development of a predictive algorithm for secondary alveolar bone grafts in cleft lip/palate patients (Marciano), the use of Invisalign® in surgery first orthodontic treatment (Shin), evaluation of dehiscence and fenestration following orthodontic treatment using CBCT (Rahimi), and the prediction of Class II skeletal growth with AI (DeGasperis). In the ongoing projects with PGY3 we continue to work in collaboration with F Curtis Kasper on the accuracy of 3D printing, the provision of remotely guided orthodontic treatment, materials and innovations in oral hygiene for orthodontic patients.

In Faculty news, **Dr. Wei Huang** was awarded a renewal of the NIH LRP from the NIDCR for 2025-2026 for ongoing research in dental ankylosis, in collaboration with **Dr. Emi Shimizu** from the Rutgers Oral Biology Department. And **Dr. Padma Mukherjee** has been elected to the board of the AAO Special Committee on Women Orthodontists (SCWO) for a 5-year term. The SCWO recognizes the accomplishments of women in orthodontics, fosters diversity, and celebrates excellence across the orthodontic profession. Congratulations to both!

All in all, this is shaping up to be a great year here at Rutgers. ■



## GRADUATE PROGRAM REPORTS



### TEMPLE UNIVERSITY

Dr. Jeffrey H. Godel

Temple University Kornberg School of Dentistry Department of Orthodontics continues to enjoy the excitement and terrific achievements of the past several months.

Meanwhile, the **Class of 2025** completed their MS degree with the following topics: **Rayanne Farah**, “Disparities Between Qualification and Funding of Medicaid-Covered Orthodontic Treatment”; **Jessica Ho**, “Factors Associated with Orthodontic Patient Non-compliance Leading to Treatment Discontinuation”; **Hyangseong “Sophie”**, “Comparison of Linear Cephalometric Means for African Americans in Philadelphia”; **Daniel Markel**, “Angular Cephalometric Means for African Americans”; **Jordyn Middleberg**, “Brackets vs. Aligners: Trends in an Orthodontic Graduate Clinic” and **Matthew Wittstein**, “Qualitative Analysis of AI in Summarization of Orthodontic Research Articles” and are working on completing their patients in anticipation of their graduation in August 2025. They have also completed the written portion of the ABO exam and are eagerly looking forward to taking the upcoming ABO scenario-based exam in September. These young professionals are looking forward to their future as orthodontists and to carrying on our wonderful profession.

Also, the **Class of 2026** is excited and thrilled to fulfill their role as second-year residents. They are **Colton Brown**,

**Marielisa Otero-Henao, Paige Hodges, Elizabeth Noel, Anwar Radwan, and Eamon Whelan.** They are looking forward to embracing their roles as big “sibs” and guiding the new class of 2027.

In addition, our residency program received well over 250 applications this year. We invited 35 candidates for an interview and matched six great residents for the **Class of 2027: Diana “Tucker” DeSanctis** from Midwestern University, **James Martinez, Sean Scott, and Grace Shei** from Temple University, **Anthony Sulvetta** from Columbia University, and **Christine Schiller** from the University of Connecticut. We are all very excited for them to join us. The **Class of 2027** is looking forward to attending and meeting all MASO members at the upcoming meetings and is enthusiastically preparing for the TWEED course next year in Arizona.

In addition, we continue with our focus on innovation and technology. We take special pride in our strong clinical focus and advanced technology. Our residents are excited and looking forward to their continued engagement in digital orthodontics.

Finally, our department would like to express our appreciation to the outstanding group of adjunct faculty and alumni who helped make this year’s graduation celebration for the **Class of 2025** possible. Their continued enthusiasm and dedication to participate in the education of our residents and the success of our program are remarkable.

We hope to see everyone at the 2025 MASO meeting in Washington, DC. ■



### UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND

Dr. Jose Bosio

Dear MASO Friends,  
Greetings from Baltimore! I’m delighted to share updates from the Division of Orthodontics at the University of Maryland School of Dentistry (UMSOD) as we wrap up another busy and exciting semester.

#### Clinic Renovations and Technology Upgrades

Our orthodontic clinic has temporarily moved just down the aisle on the 3rd floor due to a significant renovation project taking place throughout the dental school. We are excited about returning to a newly remodeled space by August. The renovated clinic will feature state-of-the-art equipment, including brand new dental chairs, upgraded cabinetry and flooring, and a new CBCT machine capable

of both 2D and 3D imaging. These enhancements will significantly improve both patient care and resident training.

#### Professional Engagement and Faculty Recognition

This spring has been an active season for our faculty. In February, I was honored to present at the Angle Midwest Society Annual Meeting in Oceanside, California. Our own **Dr. Viney Saini** was invited to join the group as a candidate, a recognition of his growing leadership in orthodontics.

Later that month, I participated in the ABO Jerryl English Educators Symposium in St. Louis, where we discussed recent updates to the board certification process. In March, I attended the ADEA Annual Session at National Harbor to support the Orthodontic Section and engage in national discussions on dental and orthodontic education.

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*Dr. Steven Marc Siegel receiving Certificate of Appreciation from Dr. Jose Bosio for his 36 years of education at the UMSOD*

We are especially proud to recognize **Dr. Steven Siegel**, faculty member at UMSOD and now the President of the American Association of Orthodontists (AAO). During the AAO Alumni Reception, we honored Dr. Siegel with a Certificate of Appreciation for his 36 years of unwavering service to our department. His contributions have extended far beyond teaching—he generously sponsored a full-day ABO preparatory course led by Director Dr. Timothy Tremont, attended by residents from UMSOD, Howard, and MedStar. Congratulations, Dr. Siegel, on this well-deserved milestone.

And talking about the alumni reception, the Philadelphia AAO meeting was the largest attendance of any UMSOD Orthodontic alumni celebration ever. We are very thankful to everyone who showed up to demonstrate support.

We also extend our warm welcome to **Dr. Larry Wang**, the newly elected AAO trustee for MASO, who is considering joining our faculty in the near future.

## Our Residents: Growth, Accomplishments, and Transitions

We continue to take pride in our residents' achievements. Our first-year residents: **Drs. Anjali Patel, Rebecca Steinfeld, Shannan Walker**, and **Tori Wallace** are settling into their training with enthusiasm. Our second-years, **Drs. Justin Mack, Elizabeth Crowe, Jessica Jiang**, and **Iman Shirmohammadi**, not only passed the ABO written examination (as expected!), but also presented research abstracts at the AAO Annual Session



*UMSOD orthodontic residents during the AAO alumni reception.*

in Philadelphia. Our third-years, **Drs. Alicia Briscoe, Christina Grace, Tri Le**, and **Steven Zinn**, have also been active in presenting and contributing to the MASO and AAO meetings.

Thanks to the generosity of our alumni, all residents attended both the MASO meeting in Bethesda and the AAO Annual Session in Philadelphia. We are deeply grateful for your continued support in providing these valuable educational experiences.

As they graduate, **Dr. Alicia Briscoe** will be heading to Mississippi, **Dr. Christina Grace** is expected to return to New Jersey, and both **Drs. Tri Le** and **Steven Zinn** plan to stay in Maryland to practice. We wish them continued success in their orthodontic careers.

## Acknowledging Our Faculty and Staff

I want to extend special thanks to our full-time and part-time faculty for their dedication, time, and generosity. Your commitment continues to shape the next generation of orthodontists. A heartfelt thanks to **Drs. Fred Preis, Flavio Copello**, and **Maria Doughan** for conducting oral examinations for our third-year residents—an invaluable educational experience for all involved. **Dr. Phil Markin** for hosting us during a relaxing, deserved vacation in Florida, **Dr. Saul Burk** for his generosity and continued support to the Wanda Flinn Endowment Fund, and all other faculty for helping to treat patients while educating the orthodontic residents. I also want to express my deepest gratitude to our wonderful administrative and clinical staff for helping to conduct the business of patient care and student education.

Thank you all for your enduring support of our program. We look forward to continuing our shared mission of excellence in orthodontic education. ■



*UMSOD, Howard, and Medstar orthodontic residents at Timothy Tremont education day/lecture.*





**UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA**  
**Dr. Chun-Hsi Chung**

We are happy to announce the following awards, which were presented to faculty and residents:

- **Dr. Chun-Hsi Chung:** Lifetime Achievement Award – Middle Atlantic Society of Orthodontists
- **Dr. Helen Jeon:** Pennsylvania Dental Association Recognition Award, Pennsylvania Dental Association, Harrisburg, PA
- **Peyton Maccarone:** (dental student), Research Volunteer with Dr. Helen Jeon (co-mentor with Dr. Hyun-Duck Nah), AADOCR Bloc Travel Grant (2025), and 2nd place for the NSRG 411 Rapid Research Competition 2025.

On April 25, we were extremely happy to welcome more than 160 alumni/faculty/residents to the 2025 AAO Penn Alumni Reception, which was held at Penn Dental Medicine. It was such a wonderful event, which gave the Alumni firsthand experience of the ongoing improvements taking place here at the school.

Our comprehensive clinic and didactic Orientation Program will begin on July 7, 2025, as we welcome our new incoming class of 2027.

## 26-Month Certificate Program

- **Kimberly La,** Tufts University,
- **Yontan Maryamia,** UCLA
- **Sophia Oak,** Temple University
- **Kyungjoon (Jim) Park,** UPENN
- **Shreya Shah,** UPENN

## 3-year MSOB/Ortho Program

- **Dimitra Karamalaki,** National & Kapodestrian University of Athens
- **Lauren E. Kim,** UCLA

## 5-year DScD/Ortho Program

- **Lujain Alsulaimani,** Ibn Sina National College

## 4-year Perio/Ortho Program (Non-Match)

- **Madawi Alhabib,** King Abdul Aziz University

This year, we have three graduates who will be completing the combined dual specialty/research degree and Certificate in Orthodontics programs, and they will be receiving their certificate in Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics at a luncheon to be held June 20.

- **Dr. Victoria Tiange Hu,** Combined MSOB/Orthodontics
- **Dr. Christie Shen,** Combined MSOB/Orthodontics
- **Dr. Jason David Poon,** Combined Perio/Ortho

On July 24 our orthodontic certificate program graduates will present their research to the faculty:

## RESIDENT PROJECT TITLE AND FACULTY ADVISOR

**Dr. Jaime Guberman:** *Evaluation of molar to WALA ridge distance and its relationship with vertical facial type in untreated subjects with normal occlusion*  
Faculty Advisor: **Dr. Chun-Hsi Chung**

**Dr. Leandra Garcia- Jorge:** *Evaluation of Maxillary and Mandibular Transverse Dimension on Digital Models and CBCT in Untreated Subjects with Normal Occlusion*  
Faculty Advisors: **Dr. Chun-Hsi Chung**

**Dr. Sarah Horne:** *Analysis of Vertical Control in Patients Pre- and Post-Bonded RPE and Lip Bumper Therapy: A CBCT Study*  
Faculty Advisor: **Dr. Chenshuang Li**

**Dr. Jessica Kang:** *Skeletodental and Profile Effects of Herbst Appliance*  
Faculty Advisor: **Dr. Hyeran Helen Jeon**

**Dr. Lucy Kim:** *Comparison of Customized Micro-Implant Assisted RPE, MSE, and SARPE: A Retrospective Study*  
Faculty Advisor: **Dr. Hyeran Helen Jeon**

**Dr. Binglan Xue:** *Mandibular Transverse Dentoalveolar Evaluation in Patients Treated with Lip Bumper Followed by Phase II Fixed Orthodontic Appliances: A Retrospective CBCT Study*  
Faculty Advisors: **Dr. Chenshuang Li**

The second-year resident mock board exam will take place on Tuesday, August 5. This will be an in-person exam with each resident submitting five cases and a mock scenario-based clinical examination.

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## GRADUATE PROGRAM REPORTS

The 2025 graduation ceremony for our 26-month postdoctoral certificate program will take place on August 22nd, 2025. The graduates are:

**Leandra P. Garcia-Jorge**  
**Jaime Ariele Guberman**  
**Sarah Elizabeth Horne**  
**Jessica Kang**  
**Lucy Eun Hwan Kim**  
**Binglan Xue**

We wish them all the very best and continued success in their future endeavors.

The 72nd Annual J. Henry O'Hern Alumni and Friends Meeting of the Department of Orthodontics will be held in person on Friday, December 5, at Penn Dental Medicine.

Speaker: **Dr. Sandra Tai**  
Topic: "Orthodontic Treatment Using Invisalign"

CEU credits will be available.

Additional program information and registration will be available online sometime soon. Keep checking the PDM Alumni website <https://www.dental.upenn.edu/alumni/> For more information regarding Penn Dental Medicine.

As always, we would be privileged to have you visit us at UPENN! ■



*University of Pennsylvania residents at the Spring MASO meeting in Bethesda Maryland.*



**UNIVERSITY OF  
PUERTO RICO**  
**Dr. Jose Morales-Diaz**

Greetings! What a great first semester 2025 the University of Puerto Rico Orthodontic Graduate Program had. We are delighted to report that all our residents and several faculty members attended the AAO annual meeting in Philadelphia, where our faculty member, **Dr. Roberto Hernandez-Orsini**, began his term as president of the American Board of Orthodontics. We are incredibly proud of Dr. Hernandez-Orsini and wish him a successful and productive presidency.

Last May, the second-year residents, **Dr. Osmell Gonzalez** and **Dr. Clarimar Soto**, traveled to Wisconsin to participate with other program residents at the American Orthodontics Summit. We were honored to have **Dr. Daniel Levy**, our

alumnus and now guest faculty, speak to our residents and faculty members with engaging and thorough lectures about craniofacial anomalies. In June, first-year residents **Drs. Ian Soto** and **Valeria Rivera** went to Tucson, Arizona, to participate in the Tweed Foundation Course. Another good news is that we started renovating our physical facilities. Senior residents **Drs. Samuel Ramos** and **Maria Rodriguez** presented and successfully defended their thesis, entitled: "Incisor Movement in Patients Treated with Pressure Side Decortication Procedure Compared to Conventional Orthodontic Treatment; Retrospective Cohort".

Finally, we welcome our incoming residents, **Drs. Keila de Leon** and **Dr. Antonella Rodriguez**, and wish the best to our graduates, **Drs. Samuel Ramos** and **Maria Rodriguez**.

We look forward to seeing them contribute to the orthodontic profession, institutions and their communities. ■



**Dr. Normand Boucher, Editor**

Ms. Jane Treiber, MASO Executive Director

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## UPCOMING EVENTS



**SEPTEMBER 25-27, 2025**

**MASO Annual Session**

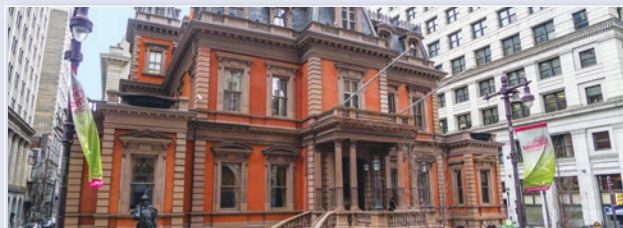
WASHINGTON, DC



**JANUARY 23-25, 2026**

**AAO Winter Conference**

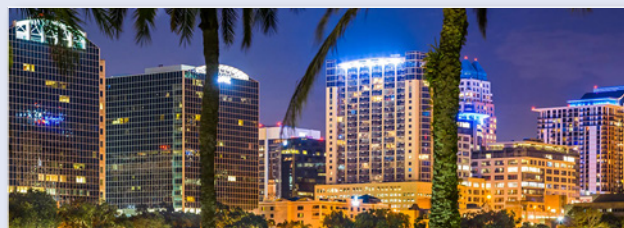
PHOENIX, AZ



**MARCH 13, 2026**

**MASO Spring CE**

PHILADELPHIA, PA



**MAY 1-3, 2026**

**AAO Annual Session**

ORLANDO, FL



**AUGUST 11, 2026**

**MASO Annual Session**

ATLANTIC CITY, NJ