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Academy NEWS

A QUARTERLY MEMBER NEWSLETTER

AO: The "TOP GUN" Academy for Implant Dentistry



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VOLUME 32, NUMBER 4 • 2021

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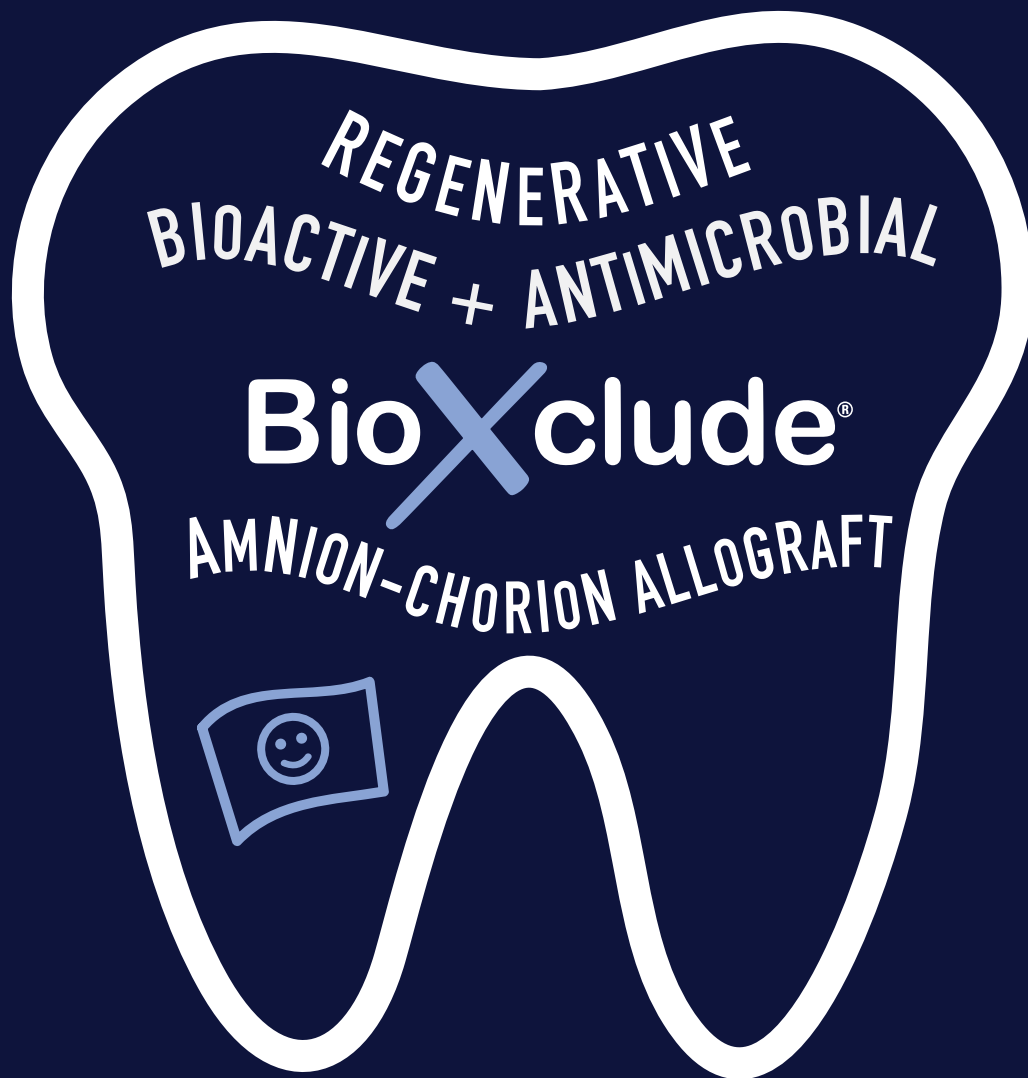


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ACADEMY NEWS

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President's Message

Treasuring the Present

By Tara L. Aghaloo, DDS, MD, PhD



everything that San Diego has to offer – and can't wait to greet you there!

In June, Academy staff and I conducted a site visit and the warm welcome was already very apparent. It seems that we will be one of the first large, in-person meetings to be held in San Diego post-COVID-19. California has been quite a strict state with regulations, so I am confident that participants will feel very safe to attend and enjoy all that our meeting's scientific and social events have to offer.

With the theme of "Implant Dentistry for All: Honoring the Past, Treasuring the Present, and Shaping the Future," Dr. **German O. Gallucci** has worked tirelessly to assemble a wonderful program with "TOP GUN" speakers at the San Diego Convention Center. The 2022 Annual Meeting will offer Hands-on Workshops held concurrently within the main program on Friday and Saturday, full-day concurrent Surgical and Restorative track programming, Morning With the Masters, Lunch With the Masters, and compelling Opening and Closing symposiums. In-person registrants will be able to participate in real time, including Q&A with the session faculty.

Rounding out your in-person 2022 Annual Meeting experience will be programming for Allied Staff, ePoster and abstract presentations highlighting the latest cutting-edge research, Young Clinicians' sessions, and 36 industry-sponsored Corporate Forums. Within very easy access will also be the return of the Academy's bustling exhibit hall for you to view the latest technologies and products by leading corporate participants, and socialize with colleagues during our three-day meeting, including the Welcome Reception on Thursday evening.

Even more exciting and as a positive outcome of our successful 2021 Virtual Annual Meeting, is the option to view the main sessions via live stream, with on-demand access available to all registrants. Live stream registrants will be able to review plenary sessions including the Opening Symposium, Surgical or Restorative Tracks, Saturday Morning session, and the Closing Symposium.

Whether you will be joining us live and in-person, or via the live stream, all registrants will have access to all recorded content following the Annual Meeting through the end of the year. A big THANK YOU to our staff who have been working tirelessly to make this happen!

Since this meeting is so anticipated, we really want to make it extra special. We chose the USS Midway for our President's Reception, where the view is spectacular and the historical significance of serving as the longest aircraft carrier of the 20th Century is awe inspiring (see related article on page 9).

We are all quite familiar with downtown San Diego and the convention center, and hope the relaxed atmosphere, sunshine, and excitement of an in-person meeting will make this one of the most memorable conferences in years! We will be along the shores of the San Diego Bay and steps away from the historic Gaslamp Quarter. Countless open-air restaurants, art galleries, boutique and premier shopping, and endless entertainment options will be at your disposal – perfect to take in during a walk along the water, and/or provide many options from you to choose as you become reacquainted with colleagues.

I am so honored to be the President of this esteemed Academy. Coming through this pandemic, I am extremely grateful how the Academy has sustained, and even flourished, in ways we could not have imagined. Thank you for your continued membership and I look forward to seeing you in person very soon.



"A mentor is more than a teacher; he is a paradigm for life:" Paul Fugazzotto

By Paul A. Fugazzotto, DDS, Academy News Editorial Consultant

**We make a living by
what we get, but we make
a life by what we give.**

– Winston Churchill

Darell A. Fisher, DDS came out of dental school ready to go. He was intelligent, demonstrated great dexterity, and was highly motivated. A great believer in continuing education, Darell was enrolling in any course which seemed potentially worthwhile. But something was missing. A cohesive treatment philosophy for simple and complex cases, grounded in science and clinical realities, failed to emerge.

Then Darell heard about **Paul A. Ricchetti**, DDS, MScD, a BU trained periodontist who was regularly bringing his study club to matriculate with Drs. **Gerald Kramer** and **Ron Nevins**, DDS, at the Institute For Advanced Dental Studies. Darell met with Paul, and avidly joined the study club. In Paul's words, "once Darell saw the level of sophistication in what we were doing, he wanted to contribute and be part of it."

Note that Paul used the word "sophistication," not "complexity." There is a sophistication, an elegance, in the simplicity of effective comprehensive patient care. When asked why he was spending so much time hosting study clubs and mentoring numerous dentists, Paul said that he wanted to "raise the level of dentistry, for the good of the patients and the doctors' practices." It is important to realize Paul was already being referred more patients than he could possibly treat. Paul's purpose was not merely "practice growth."

In the all too often ultra competitive world of private practice, it is refreshing to see a periodontist mentoring

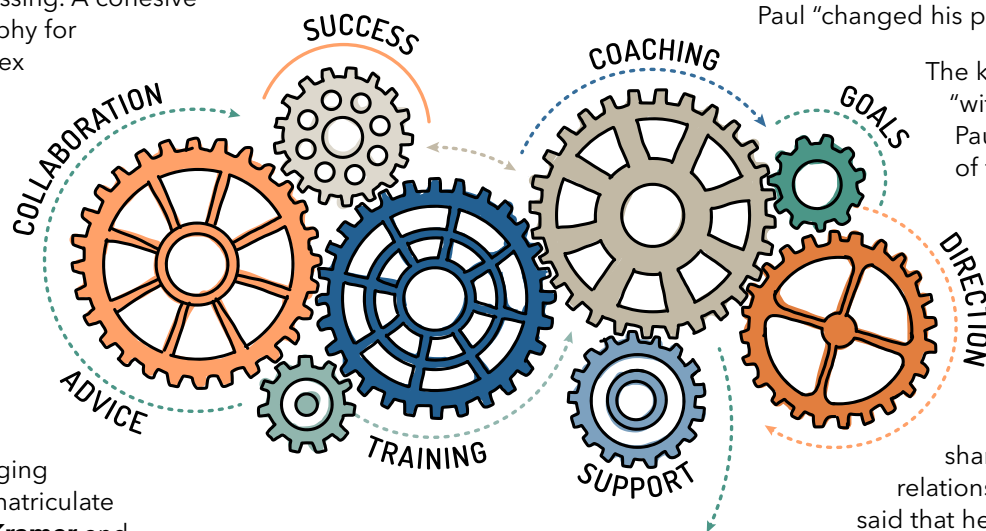
restorative dentists and the restorative dentists reciprocating.

Mentorship is not teaching someone how to make an incision, place an implant, or restore an arch. That is instruction. Mentorship is helping to develop an approach, an ethos.

When asked to identify his mentor, Darell immediately names Paul Ricchetti. At a course Paul and Daryl gave for our study club, Darell stated that working with Paul "changed his professional life."



Dr. Paul A. Ricchetti



The key phrase is working "with Paul," not "under Paul." The dialectic of true mentorship is characterized by initial guidance by the mentor, acceptance by the student, and growing sophistication of both in a sharing, ego free relationship. Michelangelo said that he did not create the David. The David was in the marble. He only uncovered it. The synergistic effect of such an experience cannot be overstated.

Mentoring

**You cannot teach a man
anything. You can only help
him discover it within himself.**

– Galileo Galilei

Darell is currently mentoring a restorative dentist, despite the fact that she no longer practices in Ohio. He spends quite a bit of time doing so, for no other reason than he is positive it is the right thing to do.

And the experience continues...

2022 Annual Meeting program a symposium of past, present and future "TOP GUN" implant dentistry

By German O. Gallucci, DMD, PhD, 2022 Annual Meeting Program Committee Chair



The Academy of Osseointegration is excited to bring you the 2022 Annual Scientific Meeting, February 24 - 26, 2022 in San Diego, CA.

These past months have been very difficult for us all, and we know that getting back to an in-person meeting will be meaningful in many ways and we look forward to convening in San Diego for "*Honoring the Past, Treasuring the Present and Shaping the Future*." The Annual Meeting Program Committee has developed outstanding sessions offering pearls that you'll be able to integrate into your practice immediately.

Our expert speakers in the field of implant dentistry will cover a broad range of topics with something for everyone - clinicians, academicians, students, allied health professionals, office managers, and support staff.

Thursday morning begins with the popular Corporate Forums with 36 industry-sponsored showcases on the latest technologies. The traditional Opening Session returns Thursday afternoon with a focus on "40 Years of Implant Dentistry" followed by the Welcome Reception in the Exhibit Hall giving you the chance to catch up with all your friends and colleagues and to view the latest products and services from our corporate affiliates.

Friday morning will start with the popular Morning With the Masters sessions. Then, the Surgical and Restorative Tracks will run concurrently all day on Friday, along with abstract sessions, followed by the President's Reception on the USS Midway - an event you won't want to miss!

On Saturday, the morning program will focus on "Future Developments in Tooth Replacement and Tissue Regeneration." Then take the opportunity to join some of the top presenters in a smaller session for Lunch With the Masters. The meeting will close on a high note with "Business Models in Implant Dentistry."

Be sure to reserve your spot for the popular Hands-on Workshops that will run along side with the plenary sessions on Friday and Saturday. We are pleased to once again offer the Allied Staff courses, abstract sessions and the Young Clinicians' Luncheon to round out your educational opportunities.

Exciting session topics include the Evolution of Dental Implants, CAD/CAM and treatment planning, failing implants, bone augmentation and grafting, and much more!

In addition to all the great education that will be offered, the meeting will enable you to reconnect with many of the friends and colleagues you've missed during the pandemic.

We look forward to seeing you in San Diego!





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TOP GUM

By Harriet K. McGraw, Academy News Editorial Consultant

The field of implant dentistry is changing at a rapid pace, with digital technology playing an increasing role in how procedures are planned and performed. One thing that has not changed is the biology. The familiar mantra, “The bone sets the tone, but the tissue is the issue,” is still valid today.

The shape and shade of implant-supported restorations are important, but the surrounding soft tissues are of equal importance. Dr. **Urs C. Belser**’s Pink Esthetic Score/White Esthetic Score (PES/WES) for evaluating restorative success highlights this principle.

When discussing treatment sequencing with patients, they are made aware that the crown seated onto their implant is only part of the ultimate goal. The crown is the picture and the soft tissue the frame; both are critical for a successful outcome.

Drs. **Dennis P. Tarnow**, **Stephen J. Chu**, and others have shown that the timing of provisional placement, as well as subgingival contours, are key factors in promoting ideal tissue development, maturation and support. The closer to the time of implant surgery a provisional is placed, the better the esthetic outcome.

There is a trend toward moving away from immediate implant placement, especially in the esthetic zone. In delayed cases, where immediate or early provisionalization is not possible, it is still an important phase in the process for aiding the development of a soft tissue emergence profile. Another option, in situations where a provisional cannot be placed immediately, is the placement of a custom healing component to help support and guide the soft tissue.

The ITI Esthetic Risk Assessment (ERA) is a very useful treatment planning tool for evaluating the degree of complexity and associated risks for individual cases. It ranks 13 variables, including medical status, tooth crown shape, gingival phenotype, and alveolar crest bone anatomy. Multiple vs. single tooth replacement poses a higher risk since it is more challenging for the surgeon and the restorative dentist.

A carefully planned case, with flawlessly performed surgery, can be ruined if the provisional displaces newly augmented tissue. There is nothing more disheartening than seeing a facial gingival margin migrate apically due to an over-contoured provisional (see Fig. 1-3).

Technological advancements have allowed clinicians to streamline the provisionalization process. Surgeons can now scan implants at the time of surgery and in-house



Fig. 1: Soft tissue displacement due to overcontoured crown.



Fig. 2: Hard and soft tissue augmentation.



Fig. 3: Ideal crown contours.

milling and printing can expedite the process further with same-day fabrication of provisionals.

In the early 1990's, when dental implants were still relatively new, Dr. **Frank Spear** advised clinicians to “Choose your surgeon wisely.” With a much more informed and discerning public, that advice is even more relevant today. Especially in the esthetic zone, where soft tissue architecture is critical, the handling of soft tissues can make or break a case. In my practice, I work with TOP GUM periodontists, who perform soft tissue surgery daily and are able to manage unexpected situations that may arise.

The tissue is still the issue!

An AO gala befitting of "TOP GUNS" in implant dentistry

The Academy of Osseointegration is very much looking forward to greeting you in San Diego for the return of its live, in-person Annual Meeting in 2022 – and especially at its President's Reception.

All Annual Meeting registrants are invited to attend the President's Reception on the USS Midway, 7:00 – 9:00 pm, Friday, February 25, 2022. This event is an exciting and fun-filled evening. See old friends and connect with new members at this time-honored tradition.

Exclusively for attendees, guests and exhibitors

The USS Midway will open its doors exclusively for our attendees and you will not want to miss this opportunity! Join your colleagues for this iconic AO event under the stars on the flight deck of the most visited historic naval ship in the world as we honor AO President Dr. **Tara L. Aghaloo** – as well as Past Presidents Drs. **Jay P. Malmquist** and **Clark M. Stanford**.

The crew of the USS Midway will welcome our guests with hors d'oeuvres, cocktails, live entertainment and breathtaking views. Guests will have the unique opportunity to visit the massive carrier after-hours and sample some of San Diego's best culinary creations. Free admission and ground transportation are included as part of this very special two-hour event complimentary with your meeting registration.

The Academy's 2022 President's Reception will be a unique opportunity to visit this naval carrier with 18 decks, equal to a 20-story building. Located on the shores of the San Diego Bay, the USS Midway was the longest serving aircraft carrier in the 20th Century named after the climactic Battle of Midway of June 1942, commissioned in 1945 just eight days after the end of World War II.

Boasting a collection of more than 30 restored fighter and attack jets, propeller aircraft and helicopters, the USS Midway is the most complete cross-section of carrier aviation. With an expansive flight deck extending more than three football fields, you will be able to view restored vintage WWII aircraft, including the F4U Corsair, the Vietnam War's F-8 Crusader, the F/A-19 Hornet from the Cold War, specialist jets such as the T-2 Buckeye, and so many more.

Get ready for another spectacular AO gala! We look forward to seeing you aboard the USS Midway!



New credentialing program to award AO Master and AO Diplomate Certificates

By Academy News guest contributors AO President Tara L. Aghaloo, DDS, MD, PhD; and Hom-Lay Wang, DDS, MSD, PhD AO vice president and liaison to AO Credentialing Board

The Academy of Osseointegration is very excited to announce its new Master and Diplomate credentialing programs!

The program awards both AO Master Certificates and AO Diplomate Certificates to applicants who: (1) complete a defined level of clinical training (i.e., Master Clinician Course or Diplomate Clinician Course); (2) meet all requirements for certification; and (3) pass AO's certification exam for the subject certificate.

"The program is designed to incentivize practitioners to obtain advanced education, training and experience regarding implant dentistry, and recognize those who do so; promote high quality implant education globally; and enhance patient care through highly-educated implant practitioners," said AO President **Tara L. Aghaloo**, DDS, MD, PhD.

AO Master Certificate applicants must complete a required minimum number of didactic training hours in addition to

involving restorative and/or surgical components. In addition, applicants must provide case presentations, attend AO Annual Meetings, and take a comprehensive exam. AO Diplomate status involves a more rigorous program requiring more hours of continuing education, hands-on training, online CE, AO Annual Meeting attendance, providing additional case presentations, and taking a much more comprehensive exam.

Training can be attained from domestic and international university centers, medical schools, hospitals and private practices accredited by the American Dental Association Continuing Education Recognition Program (ADA CERP), or other comparable accrediting organizations in various countries approved by the Academy. In addition, AO will have its own designated approved training centers to be announced. Course instructors at these centers will be AO members.

Full requirements for achieving both certifications will be released at the Academy's 2022 Annual Meeting.

Spearheading this significant initiative has been **Hom-Lay Wang**, DDS, MSD, PhD, AO vice president and chair of the Global Education Committee. He is also liaison to a new, independent AO Credentialing Board. "We are looking forward to officially launching the Academy's new credentialing program to further enhance the AO brand, and solidify AO as the recognized leading organization in implant dentistry," said Dr. Wang.

Also contributing to this endeavor is the AO Credential Board with representatives from the three mono specialties, headed up by **Joan Otomo-Corgel**, DDS, MPH. "The Credentialing Board has been charged with developing the exam process and maintaining compliance to the highest standards of certificate recognition status," said Dr. Otomo-Corgel. "We are very excited to launch the program very soon!"



Dr. Hom-Lay Wang



Knowledge: A Long and Winding Road

By: Philippe Khayat, MSD, Academy News Editorial Consultant



We tend to overlook statues. They blend in as part of a familiar landscape. A tribute to an outdated soldier or politician who may have done something important in his time but who holds little interest for us today. We are busy.

At the foot of my office building, there is a square, some grass, a few flowers, and, of course, a statue. The statue is of a famous American man. Nothing special, except I practice in Paris, France!

Long hair, wide forehead, thick neck. The man sits in a chair dressed in casual eighteenth-century attire. A skillful negotiator of the Treaty of Paris of 1783, the synonym of independence for the newly founded United States of America, Benjamin Franklin, became a very popular figure among French intellectuals and aristocrats in his day. When he died, France observed three days of national mourning! The statue remains. Franklin's influence is remembered.

Similarly, there is a French man whose statue stands less than 500 feet from the White House in Washington DC., Major General Comte de Rochambeau. He is known for his role as the French military commander in the American Revolutionary War. As part of the French force that landed on American soil, there was a group on French dental surgeons, trained according to the standards of excellence set by Pierre Fauchard and the corporation of "Experts pour les dents" founded in 1699 by royal edict. Among them was Jacques

Continued on page 18

30 Years in the pursuit of excellence as the "TOP GUN" foundation to implant dentistry

"This is a momentous year for the Osseointegration Foundation!" exclaims OF President, **Wendy M. Croll Halpern, DMD.**

That is because 30 years ago, the Osseointegration Foundation (OF) partnered with the Academy of Osseointegration (AO) to create a philanthropic opportunity to advance the skills and knowledge of dental professionals and students around the world in implant dentistry. A handful of years later, leaders set out to make OF self-sustaining. Part of that strategy was to establish an

exclusive circle of donors called the Titanium Society, along with securing an additional grant of \$250,000 from the Academy for this fundraising effort.

Now three decades later, OF continues to significantly expand its programs with increased and new funding opportunities.

"We want to make the Foundation more competitive and attract even more qualified researchers. The Academy is known as the best meeting to attend because it meshes all disciplines. Our aspirations are to continue shining the light on leading-edge research and humanitarian projects in all areas of implant dentistry around the world and keeping OF's legacy going strong," Dr. Halpern stated.

Part of OF's expansion has occurred very recently. Just this year, the OF's Translational and Clinical Science, and Basic Science grants, which are annually bestowed at the Academy's Annual Meeting, have been boosted from \$30,000 to \$50,000 per award. In addition, a new award – the OF Restorative Grant – has been established in the amount of \$50,000 to advance the clinical and fundamental principles of restorative dentistry. According to Dr. Halpern, the genesis for this new grant came out of a recent discussion to support restorative dentistry more prominently, that although important, it tends to "gets lost in the shuffle" when it comes to funding opportunities.

During OF's history, countless research grants have been awarded to clinicians and researchers around the world. Many patients with severe dental trauma have benefitted from improved treatment provided by AO members through the Foundation's Charitable Grants Program. Unique planned giving continues because of the Titanium Society. The Nobel Biocare Brånemark Osseointegration Award, implant dentistry's highest individual honor, is bestowed every year at the Academy's Annual Meeting, made possible with a generous \$2.5 million founding grant from Nobel Biocare. In addition, an ever-increasing number of students are being provided the opportunity to present their research at the Academy's Annual Meeting via the OF's Student Travel Grants, which award \$1,000 to the top 20 scoring Oral Research and ePoster student submitted abstracts each year.

"My goal is to bring more exposure of the Foundation to our wonderful membership. I want to make sure everyone is aware of our incredible opportunities for financial support in the areas of scientific research, patient care, and student assistance. I want to create more avenues for you to donate, put a spotlight on our award winners throughout the year, and direct you to our special place on the AO website where you can watch two highly enjoyable videos about our Foundation and Prof. **Per-Ingvar Brånemark.**"

For the latest information about and to support the OF, please scan the QR code or go to osseointegration-foundation.org/. To financially support OF, please refer to the special contribution letter and form insert with this edition of *Academy News*.



Global University Task Force forges ahead

By Amerian D. Sones, DMD, MS, AO Global University Task Force Chair and Academy President-elect

With a renewed energy, the Academy's Global University Task Force has been creating exciting student activities and partnerships.

Under the leadership of Chair and Academy President-elect Dr. **Amerian D. Sones**, the task force – with the ultimate goal of expanding the Academy's global university footprint, increasing the number of undergraduate and post-graduate AO university student chapters and members – has an ideal blend of young and experienced faculty and geographic representation. Members include:

Binnaz Leblebicioglu, DDS, MS, PhD (Ohio State University)

Jessie Ye Shi, DDS (NYU)

Steven J. Sadowsky, DDS (University of the Pacific)

Yair Y. Whiteman, DMD (UCLA)

Ghadeer N. Thalji, DDS, PhD (University of Illinois at Chicago)

Konstantinos Vazouras, DDS, MDS (Tufts School of Dental Medicine)

Marc Shlossman, DDS, MS (AT Stills University)

Tong-Mei Wang, DDS, MS, PhD (National Taiwan University)

Frank Jones, DDS, MBS, PhD (UNLV)

At its most recent Zoom meeting, the task force generated a number of excellent ideas. These include providing opportunities to collaborate on a geographic level, working with young clinicians to continually understand the changing needs and interests of students, hosting faculty breakout sessions at the Academy's Annual Meetings, and developing of an "AO Road Map" which would provide guidelines on how to establish an AO University Chapter, brand the Academy as the standard for, and nexus of, implant dental implant education with experts in the field.

Currently the Academy has 17 university partnerships in place with two more universities in the process of coming online to implement new AO student chapters. These include: University of Georgia, Augusta (under Faculty Advisor AO Fellow Dr. **Todd R. Schoenbaum**) and University of Oregon, Portland (under Dr. **Despoina Bompolaki**).

In addition, Dr. Sones has also recently visited a number of universities and dental schools, as well as met with members of the task force in person. These have included: University of Louisiana, Tufts University, Boston University, and the University of Connecticut.

With the success of the AO Student Summer 2021 Webinar Series (see related article on page 15), Dr. Sones proposed and obtained board approval for a new fall/winter "AO Global University Webinar Series." To be held once again

on Saturdays, the schedule of Fall dates will include: November 20 and December 11, 2021. Winter dates will include January 15 and February 5, 2022. Topics and presenters to be announced.

"Based on the fact that schools may still be hesitant to have large groups in extracurricular meetings due to on-going COVID restrictions, the online venue of these webinars offers students from all over the country, and also globally, an opportunity to attend," said Dr. Sones. "Contacting dental professionals at an early stage of dental careers makes it a high priority. That's where the Academy makes a difference – reaching out at an undergraduate level."

"Establishing the AO chapter has resulted in some terrific intra-departmental collaboration. The faculty have embraced the opportunity to offer perspectives from their own fields, and at the same time, it has been a great draw for a wide variety of students, independent of whichever specialty they intend to pursue," said D-4 student Josh Kwolek, who set up the first AO student chapter at UConn.



As part of her visits to AO University Partnership schools, Dr. Amerian D. Sones, chair of the AO Global University Task Force, met with Dr. Konstantinos Vazouras, post graduate prosthodontist residency director at Tufts School of Dental Medicine and a new member to the task force.

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Backing the next generation of implant dentistry "TOP GUNS"

Throughout its history, the Academy has shown robust support for students and young clinicians to help support up and coming dental implantologists. During the COVID pandemic has been no exception.

Most recently, the Academy initiated the "AO Summer Student Webinar Series," focusing on creating continued interest in implant dentistry and highlighting the benefits of membership to the Academy. The program of webinars, held on Saturday mornings with free registration for all AO members and non-members, included:

- **June 5, 2021**
"Fundamentals of Dental Implant Surgery - Predictable Outcomes"
AO President and Fellow **Tara L. Aghaloo**, DDS, MD, PhD
- **July 17, 2021**
"Digital Implant Workflow - Restorative and Surgical Considerations"
German O. Gallucci, DMD, PhD
- **August 14, 2021**
"Atraumatic tooth extraction, grafting and implant placement"
Derrick D. Pylant III, DDS

"I thought this was a great program that AO set up for students and residents. With the ease of the Internet, this is a great way to reach many people without having to coordinate a huge live event. I would recommend AO to all my colleagues that are interested and motivated in expanding their knowledge," said Dr. Sae-Ho Chun from Texas A&M University College of Dentistry.

All told, nearly 620 students collectively attended this special programming track of webinars.

"This program aligns well with the Academy's strategic plan of increasing membership and connecting to universities and colleges of dentistry with a positive impact made on students, residents, and faculty relative to dental implant education," said Dr. Amerian D. Sones, chair of AO's Global University Task Force and Academy president-elect.

This year was also the third time in as many years in which the Academy supported its Young Clinicians' Committee (YCC) to generate interest in, and presenter proposals for, the



During a recent visit to UConn, Dr. Amerian D. Sones (at far right) caught up with Dr. Sejal Thacker, postgrad perio residency director and AO implant student chapter faculty advisor, D-4 student Josh Kwolek, and D-4 student Victor Munoz.

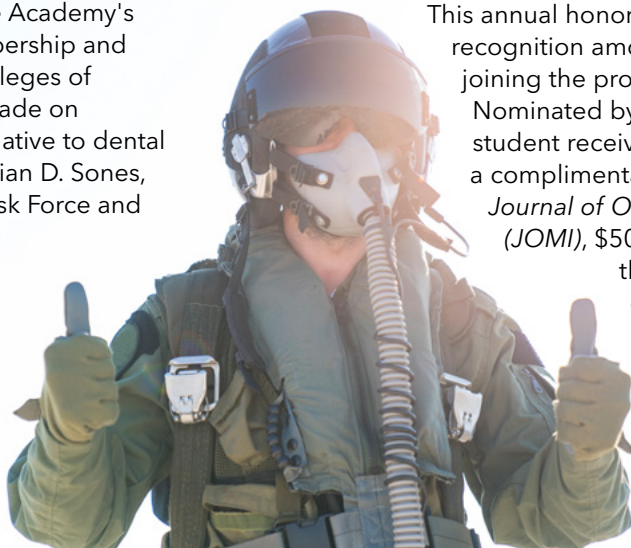
Annual Meeting YCC programming track via a social media campaign. Interested presenters were asked to submit a video of one minute describing their proposed topic.

"We have been successful as a committee on social media in partnership with the Academy and we hope this activity will continue to grow in the coming years," said Dr. Jose A. Garcia Montemayor, chair of the YCC.

Students are also supported through the Academy via the Osseointegration Foundation's Student Travel Grant Program. Initiated in 2017 to help provide students with financial assistance to advance both clinical application and basic scientific research in the science of osseointegration, \$1,000 grants are awarded to the top 20 scoring Oral Research and ePoster student submitted abstracts as reviewed by members of the AO Research Submissions and ePoster committees. The grants are allocated toward travel expenses related to assist in paying travel expenses to attend the Academy's Annual Meeting, where winning students present their research.

Last but certainly not least is the Academy's annual Outstanding Dental Student in Implant Dentistry Award.

This annual honor provides dental students with recognition among their peers and a head start on joining the professional field of implant dentistry. Nominated by their respective schools, each student receives a free year of AO membership, a complimentary subscription to the *International Journal of Oral & Maxillofacial Implants (JOMI)*, \$500, and a certificate. Additionally, these selected students receive complimentary registration to AO's Annual Meeting. Since 2005, the Academy has recognized nearly 850 students with this award.



Ground Control to Major Tom

By Paul A. Fugazzotto, DDS,
Academy News Editorial Consultant



Is there anyone left who is not “Zoomed out?” Whether having given Zoom presentations where one feels like a “talking head,” or having sat through innumerable Zoom lectures best characterized as rolling slides with a small picture of the presenter’s head on the side, virtual fatigue has set in.

The challenges to giving or listening to virtual presentations are many and varied. However, there are ways to help ensure a more exciting and fulfilling experience for both the presenter and the audience, depending upon the format employed, the group addressed, and the length of the presentation.

A single presentation to a group, ranging from one to three hours (when discussing a full day presentation, picture the day as two three-hour segments): The greatest challenge for the speaker is maintaining his or her enthusiasm and engaging the audience. Nothing is worse for the audience than a monotone speaker who sounds like he is reciting a script. Avoiding this pitfall can prove daunting, if not impossible, if the presentation is nothing more than a series of slides with a thumbnail of the speaker’s head as he or she delivers the presentation. Such a static image, in addition to proving stifling for the presenter, quickly becomes boring for the audience.

When giving these presentations I utilize what can best be described as “the weatherman approach.” I stand in front of a green screen, upon which my presentation is projected. I am able to give the “lecture” in the same manner as I would to a live audience, moving around and pointing to various points on the slides. Being peripatetic by nature, I find this

approach more exciting, and I am able to maintain a higher level of enthusiasm. Feedback from audiences has been that they appreciate this approach and find it more engaging. This “live on-line” course is characterized by the ability for the audience to ask questions throughout the presentation.

A 30 minute to one hour presentation as part of an academy meeting, ala the AO 2021 Virtual Annual Meeting: When I must sit in front of my computer like a David Byrne band member, it is imperative to still be as vocally active and animated as possible, changing inflections, etc. to hold audience attention. In order to maintain my enthusiasm, I picture live audience reactions when I have given similar presentations. This works surprisingly well, as the presentation is relatively short.

As a participant in a panel discussion: The first key to success in such a format is the moderator, who must be well-prepared and able to control the tempo of the discussion. We were, of course, fortunate enough to have Dr. **Clark M. Stanford** moderate our panel at the most recent AO Annual Meeting. In such an environment, it is most effective to be relaxed and casual. Rather than being highly animated, such a panel should feel like a “fireside chat” between the participants. This is the easiest presentation to give as you feed off of each other.

While there is a danger of feeling like Commander Towers and Lieutenant Holmes from “On The Beach,” speaking to no one in particular and hoping for a response, such a challenge is readily overcome through a combination of innovative presentation techniques, engagement of the audience, and the speaker constantly reminding himself or herself that there are indeed live listeners on the other end.

Is it more difficult to maintain enthusiasm in such a setting? Yes. Is it impossible? No. It is not even that difficult.



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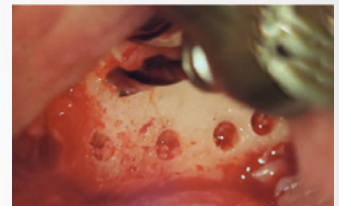
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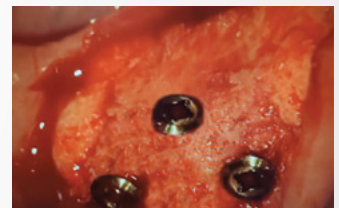
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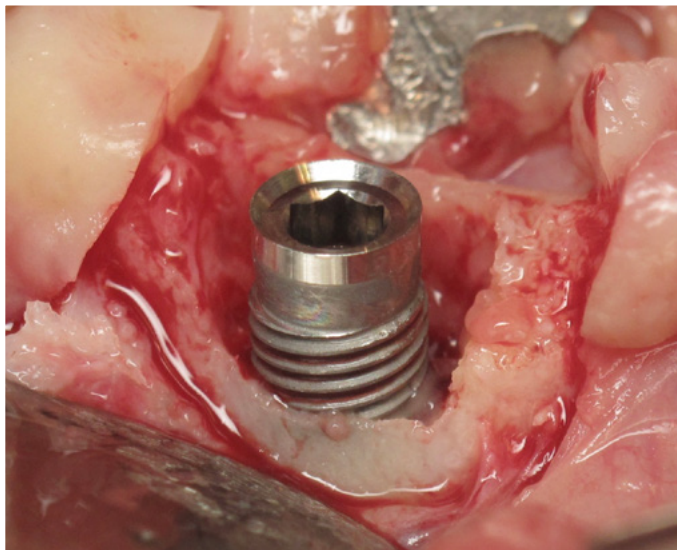


Knowledge: A Long and Winding Road

Continued from page 11

Gardette who made a set of Hippopotamus-ivory dentures for George Washington himself, introducing Fauchard's advanced techniques into American dentistry.

The French revolution which followed soon after was a disaster for French dentistry. A professional license was granted to any citizen who asked for it. This caused a major setback. France was no longer the world leader in the field of dentistry.



Could the shift from machined to modified surfaces explain the high prevalence of peri-implantitis?

But skill, education and knowledge were not lost. It was now in the hands of American dental surgeons. The first dental schools, journals, and organizations were created in the US, and American dentistry rapidly acquired its worldwide reputation for excellence. In fact, in 1850, the top dentists in Paris – Spaulding, Davenport, Levett, Cravens, Daboll, Rust, and Evans – were all American. These excellent practitioners encouraged their French successors to seek training in the US, and French dentistry immensely benefited from their experience.

Knowledge, excellence, skills are fragile. Under certain circumstances, they can be lost or forgotten.

Implant dentistry is a rather new discipline. The main complication in this field today is peri-implantitis. All reports indicate prevalence fluctuates around 20%⁽¹⁻⁷⁾. One patient out of five! A worrying situation! From time to time, we hear the voices of senior colleagues, often "TOP GUNS" of their time, who tell us that, for a long time, **peri-implantitis was almost absent from their experience**. They mention the shift from machined to modified implant surfaces as a possible explanation.

In a recent oral presentation, long-time practitioner Prof. **Daniel Buser**, DDS, Dr. Med. Dent. an immense clinician, educator and researcher, and a recipient of numerous AO awards and professional honors presented a "take-home message:" **"Exposed micro-rough implant surfaces are the main cause for the development of peri-implantitis."** He mentioned poor oral hygiene or heavy smoking only as "co-factors." Whether he is right or not, whether our older colleagues are right or not, peri-implantitis being such a clinical nightmare, this implant surface issue should be thoroughly investigated. I dare say it should be a priority in our scientific debates.

In a recent milestone world consensus conference organized by the American Academy of Periodontology and the European Federation of Periodontology, risk factors for peri-implantitis were presented and discussed according to the most recent scientific literature⁽⁸⁾. Implant surface was not even listed! A lot of clinicians who had significant experience with both machined and micro-rough surfaces are retiring. Will their experience, their knowledge be lost? After Professor Buser, who will be blowing the whistle? Will the heritage be remembered?



Continue the discussion on the AO DocMatter Community! Scan this QR code to interact with the author and your AO member colleagues.

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The "TOP GUN" Academy in implant dentistry invites you back to San Diego

By: Mehrdad Favagehi, DDS, MS, Academy News Editor

The 2022 Annual Meeting of the Academy of Osseointegration will take place February 24 - 26 in San Diego. With its warm February climate, San Diego offers an oasis for travelers escaping the cold to enjoy its beautiful pacific beaches, world-class restaurants, and waterfront landmarks, such as the USS Midway where the AO President's Reception will be held.

The USS Midway is the first super carrier built around the time of WWII. With just its design blueprints weighing 90 tons, the USS Midway is an engineering marvel. The USS Midway Museum features more than 10 acres of various exhibits including various fighter jets on its flight deck exhibit.

San Diego is also the home of the U.S. Navy's pacific fleet and Miramar airbase, the original home of the U.S. Navy Strike Fighter Instructor School also known as the TOP GUN ACADEMY where selected elite Navy pilots receive advance training to be air-to-air combat instructors in their units.

Like the TOP GUN academy, the Academy of Osseointegration is known as a place for the elite to hone their skills. Operating supersonic jets requires years of training, great attention to detail and precision. Likewise, in implant dentistry, where a 2mm error can be the difference between success and failure, precision is a trait implant doctors have in common with TOP GUN pilots.

When the movie TOP GUN was released in the late 1980's, the field of implant dentistry was mainly driven by maverick pioneers. The father of modern implantology was a larger than life character, an orthopedic surgeon who was willing to break boundaries and go beyond norms as he performed dental implant surgery to help the dentally crippled patients for whom traditional dentistry offered no solution. Prof. **Per-Ingvar Brånemark**, MD, PhD was a maverick. He understood that having a revolutionary spirit and nonconformist attitude was needed to break barriers. However, he also knew that to build the foundation of a new clinical field based on osseointegration required vision, collaboration, education, and hard science. These values were the foundation of our Academy in the late 1980s and still hold true today.

The Maverick character in TOP GUN of 1986 was a hot headed young man who was willing to bend rules to show

his exceptional talent.

The sequel TOP GUN: Maverick is to be released in May 2022 shortly after our planned Annual Meeting. It will be thrilling to see the wiser, more experienced battle hardened Maverick of 2022 returning to TOP GUN as an experienced instructor. Likewise, expect to be blown away by the more experienced, more sophisticated TOP GUN instructors at the 2022 AO Annual Meeting in San Diego featuring the latest in implant science, technology and practice.

The three-day multi-disciplinary conference features implant dentistry's most elite instructors providing implant courses for the beginner as well as TOP GUN implantologists. The meeting theme is to honor the past, treasure the present and shape the future.

The "TOP GUN" Academy in implant dentistry invites you back to the latest sequel of amazing AO annual meetings. Please go to osseointegration.org to reserve your "pilot's seat" now.



Dr. Mehrdad Favagehi



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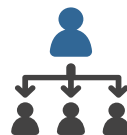
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Members of the Academy of Osseointegration have a great opportunity to help shape the future of implant dentistry and at the same time receive additional discounts when registering for the 2022 Annual Meeting through our Member-Get-a-Member Campaign.

"Simply talk with your non-member colleagues about membership in the Academy and you could potentially attend its 2022 Annual Meeting at no charge!" Douglas F. Dompkowski, DDS, AO Membership Committee Chair enthusiastically stated. "Personal endorsement is by far our most effective recruitment tool."

As an incentive for AO members to participate in the Member-Get-a-Member campaign, the following levels of recognition have been established:

Gold

Recruit 10 or more members and receive complimentary registration to the Academy's 2022 Annual Meeting (February 24 - 26, in San Diego, CA).

Silver

Recruit five-to-nine members and receive half price on the 2022 Annual Meeting registration.

Bronze

Recruit two-to-four members and receive half price on 2022 Annual Meeting registration (provided that at least one new member participates in the Annual Meeting).

"When talking with your colleagues, don't forget to mention the many advantages membership in the Academy offers," continued Dr. Dompkowski, who specified those as:

- Substantially discounted registration fees to AO's Annual, Regional and Chapter Meetings.
- Subscription to the Academy's two official journals: the *International Journal of Oral and Maxillofacial Implants (JOMI)* and its related online resources, and *The International Journal of Periodontics and Restorative Dentistry*.
- Unlimited access to AO's Online Learning Center, including complimentary participation in AO's interactive (and archived) ADA-CERP approved webinars.
- Access to the AO DocMatter Community, a private, members-only online portal.



- Access to the "Members Only" section of AO's website.
- *Academy News*, a quarterly newsletter that will keep you abreast of activities within the implant community.
- A personalized membership certificate suitable for display in your office.
- Leadership opportunities...and numerous other valuable benefits.

To participate in AO's Member-Get-a-Member Campaign, non-members must indicate the referring member's name in the "Promotion Code/Referred By" box on AO's membership application, which is available at osseo.org. In order to be qualified, a complete application and dues must be received, and approved by AO's Membership Committee. For questions, please contact Amanda Wiff, AO Membership Manager at 847-725-2267.





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March 27 – 29**

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Dear Esteemed Membership:

This year marks the 30th Anniversary of the Osseointegration Foundation (OF) advancing excellence in implant dentistry through research funding, patient subsidy, and student assistance.

How did I get to this position of President of OF and why is it important to me? My story starts in 2003.

I was a Fellow in Dental Implantology in the Department of Periodontology at the University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine. Dr. Cyril Evian was the chairman at the time. I completed a research project in his office, coming once a week reviewing every one of his implant cases. I presented this research, *Retrospective Analysis of Implant Survival and the Influence of Periodontal Disease and Immediate Placement on Long-term Results*, as a poster at the AO Annual Meeting in 2003 in Boston.

At the time, I was eight months pregnant with my daughter, Jill Rose, my two-year-old son, Benjamin, was home with my mom with a double ear infection, and my father – Dr. Burney Croll, a prosthodontist – was with me at the meeting. Before the end of the meeting – and before knowing I had won Best Poster Award Presentation – I almost went home! Someone told my Dad I should stay. I didn't even know the poster session was a competition! So, there I was with my big pregnant self, walking up on that stage with a tan blouse on in front of thousands of members in blue and black dresses and suits – including Dr. Per-Ingvar Brånemark and my father, and I received this incredible award.

Right after this, I was invited to be a member of the Research Subcommittee, on which I served for several years. I then served three years as vice-chairperson, and three years as chairperson. During my time on this committee, we streamlined the review process to make it more efficient. I remained on the Research Subcommittee for a few more years and was asked to be on the board of the Osseointegration Foundation. This year, I became president.

I understand the difficulties of funding in dentistry and the utmost importance of research. We are at the level of practice and learning not only due to the brilliant minds of principal investigators and their students, but the funding from government, private industry, and philanthropy.

Continuing to fulfill the Foundation's research, educational and charitable programs can only succeed with generous philanthropic support from individuals such as yourself. With a donation of \$500 or more, your name will be added to the OF Donor display board at the Academy's 2022 Annual Meeting in San Diego. To make a donation, simply complete and return the form on the back of this letter. Please keep in mind your 2021 contribution is tax deductible.

It is an honor to be President of the Osseointegration Foundation. With your help, I hope to make my mark by growing the Osseointegration Foundation.

My highest regards,

Wendy Croll Halpern, DMD



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