Dear Colleagues and Alumni,

It was great to see so many of you at the EuroPerio9 in Amsterdam. Finally, periodontology is centerstage again along with saving teeth! It has been an intense year for Residents and Faculty. We implemented a few new formats within the implantology and conscious sedation courses, with the development of digitally guided implant placement and the introduction to lasers. With limited Faculty, the teaching coverage in the Graduate Periodontology Clinic has been challenging and I hope that some of you still have some drive to help teach the new generation of periodontists at the U of M. Mrs. Liisa Durkot has been a great asset as Clinic Manager and our team of supporting staff Diane Hartinger, Barbara Kleist, and the new Tina Nichols has been excellent. As Graduate Program Director, I am moving into the future with enthusiasm. We have accepted this year three promising young residents: Dr. Barbara Botorous from Canada, Dr. Ioannis Kormas from Greece and Dr. Alessandro Pedercini from Italy. The diversity and of our program enriches the potential to achieve new heights. Current residents are publishing independent research and are engaged in a variety of research projects: from bone biology and implants in diabetics, to predicting periodontitis progression with GCF metabolomics. We are ready to take on today’s challenges from minimally invasive surgical procedures, to digital planning of implant placements and complex GBR procedures. Our great program is also supported by generous Alumni. I want to reassure you that our Periodontology program has a great reputation and I will strive to move this program into the future with pride, passion, and dedication.

Sincerely,
Dr. Massimo Costalonga
Massimo Costalonga, PhD, DMD

Dr. Massimo Costalonga’s research interest spans from clinical research to basic science in the area of mucosal immunology and animal models of periodontitis. With the help of several residents, Dr. Costalonga is conducting a longitudinal study to predict the progression of periodontitis and periimplantitis using nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy. The objective is to identify specific metabolites in the gingival crevicular fluid predictive of disease. Dr. Costalonga is currently implementing digital dentistry and LASER therapy into the program. He is funded by the National Institute of Health focusing on mucosal intraepithelial Langerhans cells and T cell-mediated adaptive immune response.

Deborah K. Johnson, DDS

Dr. Deborah Johnson continues in her position as Clinical Associate Professor whereby she devotes most of her time to the graduate periodontic program. She directs the graduate literature review seminar series and devotes one day per week to providing patient care in the Faculty Practice Clinic. She also devotes some of her time to teaching basic Periodontal and Implant Surgeries techniques to the Endodontic residents and Pre-Doc students. Deby provides general supervision to the periodontal residents in our clinic as well as “special sessions”. She has incorporated “All on 4” treatment into her faculty practice as well as extensive vertical ridge augmentation techniques. She lives in Plymouth with her husband, Scott McClanahan, who is the director of the Graduate Endodontics Program at the University of Minnesota.

Daniel D. Skaar, DDS, MBA, MS

Dr. Dan Skaar serves as Division Director and Interim Chair of Developmental and Surgical Sciences. In addition to teaching didactic and clinical periodontology, he directs and teaches pharmacology courses for dental students. He continues to study medical-dental care issues using the multiyear, longitudinal Medicare Current Beneficiary Data Set. A recent focus has been the appropriateness of antibiotic prophylaxis for joint replacement patients using cost-effectiveness Markov modelling. New research interests include a rheumatoid arthritis study, a microbiome study of kidney transplant patients, and assessing the role of pharmacogenetics in analgesic prescribing decisions for acute pain.

Larry F. Wolff, MS, PhD, DDS

Dr. Larry Wolff has been in academic dentistry at the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry for thirty-eight years. His current responsibilities in the School of Dentistry include teaching, service and research. He provides didactic and clinical periodontal instruction to pre-doctoral dental, dental hygiene, and dental therapy students as well as periodontal residents. Larry, in working with periodontal residents, continues to be very active in basic and clinical research initiatives. One of these studies addresses the development of guided tissue regeneration membranes with growth factors, which is expected to prove to be more clinically effective in regenerating the periodontium. Larry’s interest also surrounds diabetes as related to periodontal treatment and diagnosis. In regards to one of these projects related to diabetes, Larry, together with colleagues at Minnesota, is collaborating with University of Washington investigators in evaluating an implant system to determine if it will enhance implant placement in diabetic patients. In addition, Larry continues to work with colleagues in the Division of Periodontology to address the effect of non-surgical periodontal therapy on the Wnt-beta-catenin signaling pathway, the association between periodontal disease and systemic conditions, patient predictors of implant failures and an adjunctive local delivery system in treating periodontal disease.
Adjunct Faculty

The skills and achievements of our Residents could have not been achieved without our Adjunct Faculty. We sincerely appreciate their passion and dedication to the Advanced Education Program in Periodontology. The perspective and the expertise they bring to the program is invaluable and essential to the broad education of our Residents. We do know that taking time away from their practice and families is a great sacrifice but the payoff is to see a young dentist develop into a fully independent periodontist worthy of the trust of a family member. Here is the list of Periodontists who embody dedication and endurance, as you can see by the year they started contributing to the Advanced Education Program in Periodontology. We are always looking for new Alumni interested in a teaching experience at the University of Minnesota.

THANK YOU ALL!!!

Massimo Costalonga

Dr. James Hinrichs 1980
Adjunct Professor

Dr. Roger Ettel 1987
Adjunct Assistant Professor

Dr. Jonathan Jenkins 1988
Adjunct Associate Professor

Dr. Satya Molleti 2002
Adjunct Assistant Professor

Dr. Robert Jensen 2003
Adjunct Assistant Professor

Dr. Jane Jensen 2005
Adjunct Assistant Professor

Dr. Donald Lareau 2005
Affiliate Adjunct Assistant Professor

Dr. Guizhen Zhang 2011
Adjunct Associate Professor

Dr. Ryan Wolff 2016
Affiliate Adjunct Assistant Professor

Dr. Mark Wilson 2017
Adjunct Assistant Professor

Dr. Jason Johnson 2018
Adjunct Assistant Professor

Dr. Kiran Kingsley 2018
Affiliate Adjunct Assistant Professor

Pictured (left to right): Drs. Parachuru, Shalev, Thieu, Costalonga, Hamilton, Jabs, Paulson, Hemmerich, and Chatzopoulos at the 2018 Graduation Dinner.
AEPP Fall 2018

Congratulations to the AEPP 2018 Graduates

We recently bid farewell to three graduating students from the Advanced Education Program in Periodontology, Class of 2018:

Dr. Janelle Hamilton
Dr. Caitlin Hemmerich
Dr. Georgios Chatzopoulos

Dr. Caitlin Hemmerich

Caitlin Hemmerich graduated from the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry where she received a certificate in periodontology. She went on to complete a General Practice Residency at Hennepin County Medical Center. She is currently in practice with Dr. Jane and Robert Jensen at Jensen & Jensen at the Maplewood and Stillwater locations. Caitlin and her husband, Kevin, enjoy exploring Minnesota’s state parks, biking, skiing, kayaking, and hiking in their spare time.

Dr. Janelle Hamilton

Dr. Hamilton received her D.M.D. from the University of Montreal in 2013, where she was awarded the A. Bernard Award for the highest overall academic and clinical standing in the dental program. Prior to her periodontology training, she worked for two years in a rural private practice. This past year, she successfully completed her Certificate in Periodontology and became a fellow elect of the Royal College of Dentists of Canada. She has returned to Ottawa, Ontario, Canada and has joined an established periodontal practice in the downtown core. She looks forward to finally being able to travel, enjoy free weekends and spend time with family and friends.

Dr. Georgios Chatzopoulos

Dr. Chatzopoulos trained at the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece and qualified as a dentist in 2014. Following a year of general dental practice, he joined the UMN Advanced Education Program in Periodontology. Dr. Chatzopoulos graduated with a Certificate in Periodontology and a Master’s degree in Dentistry and Biostatistics.

Dr. Chatzopoulos gave a number of presentations locally, nationally. He is a member of numerous professional associations and has received awards and scholarships in the area of Periodontology and Implant Dentistry including the 2017 and 2018 Nobel Biocare Student Member Annual Meeting Scholarships from the AAP, Honorary mention from the MSP (2017 and 2018) and an Education Grant from the Osteology Foundation (Michigan, 2018). He was also finalist for the prestigious Balint Orban memorial award and the Research Forum poster competition at the AAP last year in Boston as well as the Volpe Prize at the Ohio State University in 2018. George has co-authored in more than 25 publications in highly respected peer reviewed dental journals including the Journal of Periodontology, Journal of Dentistry and Journal of Prosthetic Dentistry among others.

It was hard for him to say goodbye to his friends and MN family at the University of Minnesota. Dr. Chatzopoulos moved to London, UK where he practices Periodontics and Implant Dentistry and will be joining Barts and the London School of Medicine and Dentistry at Queen Mary University of London as a Clinical Research Fellow.
Resident News

Class of 2019

Dr. Dan Jabs

Dan Jabs, DDS, received his baccalaureate in Biochemistry from University of Minnesota Duluth in 2012 and his dental degree from University of Minnesota Twin Cities in 2016. Dan has previous experience working as an EMT and is currently researching the use of GCF for prediction of periodontal disease with his advisor, Dr. Massimo Costalonga. He received the 2016 AAP Dental Student Award presented to the senior dental student who has excelled in the field of periodontology. Dan intends to go into private practice in Minnesota after finishing his periodontal residency.

Dr. David Paulson

David Paulson, DDS, received his bachelor’s degree in 2012 and DDS degree in 2016 from Marquette University. Periodontics has been an interest of his since early on in dental school and his decision to pursue the specialty led him to the University of Minnesota. David got married shortly after beginning his residency and lives in downtown Minneapolis with his wife. He is a Wisconsin native and plans to practice in either Minnesota or Wisconsin after completing his residency.

Dr. Alon Shalev

Alon Shalev, DMD, MHA, a third-year resident, comes to us from Israel where he served on the board of advisory and as a consultant for 3M ESPE Israel in prosthetic and restorative dentistry while running a private practice in his hometown, the southern city of Beer-Sheva.

Alon was recommended and encouraged to apply to the program by his good friend and mentor, an alumni to the program, Dr. Christos Diamatopoulos (Alumnus, 2004).

Alon is doing research under the mentorship of Dr. Larry Wolff. Alon’s research focuses on local delivery of antibiotics in severe periodontitis patients. Alon Shalev is a finalist on this year’s Research Competition at the 2018 American Academy of Periodontology annual meeting taking place in Vancouver, Canada later this year. Alon will also present a poster of one of his clinical cases completed with Dr. Deborah Johnson. Alon and his wife Moran earlier this year had their first baby girl, Ariel.
Class of 2020

Dr. Praveen Parachuru
Dr. Praveen Parachuru, PhD, comes to us from The University of Otago, New Zealand where he completed his PhD in 2013 under the supervision of Prof Gregory John Seymour. He was a faculty in Oral Biology for the next three years where he supervised undergrad and post-grad research projects and attracted overall grant funds of $100k NZD and authored/co-authored multiple publications in peer reviewed journals including Periodontology 2000. His great interest lies in the immunopathogenesis of periodontal disease which he has been working on since 2008, including his latest project on immunomodulatory role of microRNA. Dr. Parachuru moved to the USA to do his clinical training in perio and further translate his profound research experience to the clinic. Dr. Parachuru continues to elevate the bar as a finalist for the prestigious AAP Educator scholarship for 2018.

Dr. Kathleen Thieu
Kathleen Thieu, DDS, received her dental degree from the University of Minnesota in 2017. She has worked in Dr. Costalonga’s lab and studied the contribution of mucosal Langerhans cells to alveolar bone loss in a murine model of periodontitis. Kathleen was awarded the NIDCR Summer Dental Student Award. She conducted research under the direction of Dr. Wanjun Chen at the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research in 2014. Kathleen plans to join a private practice in the Twin Cities following graduation. In her spare time, Kathleen enjoys travelling, hiking and cooking.

Class of 2021

Dr. Hatem Alassy
Hatem Alassy practiced general dentistry for over 10 years between Minnesota and California. He is originally from Egypt and graduated from Cairo University. Hatem shifted his attention to periodontics and implants over the years and was happy to join the Advanced education in Periodontology at the University of Minnesota. He enjoys private practice as well as teaching.

Dr. Barbara Botorous
Barbara Botorous, DMD, originally from Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, received her dental degree from the University of Montreal in 2017. Barbara completed her final year in the Periodontal Honors course at the University of Montreal. She then completed a General Practice Residency for 1 year at the Montreal General Hospital. Barbara got married during her dental school and bought a husky shortly after with her husband. In her spare time, she enjoys playing sports and travelling.

Dr. Ioannis Kormas
Ioannis Kormas, DDS, comes from Athens, Greece. He received his dental degree from the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens in 2013. Subsequently, he served as a dentist in the Hellenic Air Force General Hospital for one year and practiced general dentistry in the private sector for a year and a half. In December 2015, he started his two-year Advanced Education in General Dentistry residency at the University of Rochester (Eastman Institute for Oral Health), in Rochester, NY. He is currently a first-year resident of the Advanced Education Program in Periodontology at the University of Minnesota. He has been trained in vocals and piano and, in his spare time, enjoys cinema, theatre and tennis.

Dr. Alessandro Pedrecini
Alessandro Pedercini, DDS, attained his dental degree in Italy at the University of Verona in 2015. After graduation, Alessandro practiced in the United Kingdom for two years (2016-2017) as a prosthodontist and assistant surgeon in a full arch implant rehabilitation clinic. Currently, he is a first-year resident in the Advanced Education Program in Periodontology at the University of Minnesota (Class of 2021). In his free time, he enjoys sport activities such as skiing and mountain biking.

Giving to the Advanced Education in Periodontics Program

Gifts to the periodontology fund can be made electronically here: https://z.umn.edu/Perio_Gift
If you prefer to mail a paper form. It can be found here: https://z.umn.edu/GiftForm
You would then want to select Graduate Periodontics Research and Education Fund.

Return completed forms to:
University of Minnesota Foundation
P.O. Box 860266
Minneapolis, MN 55486

Make a gift to the Division of Periodontology
https://z.umn.edu/Perio_Gift
Advanced Education Program in Periodontology Clinic and Staff News

We have a great team of supporting staff, from Dental Assistants Diane Hartinger, Barbara Kleist and Tina Nichols, to Front Desk Leyna Coppersmith, Administrative Specialist Shelby LaFreniere, Hygienist Pat Doughty and Perio Clinic Manager/Hygienist Liisa Durkot.

Dental Assistants
Diane Hartinger
Diane has 32 years experience in Dental Surgery Clinics. She married John in 1994 and was blessed with 3 young step children. She has Certified Board training with Intravenous Clinical Sedation and her Certificate of Completion from the AAOMS Anesthesia Assistants Program. She enjoys volunteering at Eagle Brook Church as well as spending time with family, gardening, biking, and tennis.

Barbara Kleist
Barb has worked her entire career in Periodontology and the Oral & Maxillofacial graduate programs throughout her career at the University of Minnesota. Her passions and time are devoted to her family, anything culinary, travel and her new love, gardening.

Tina Nichols
Tina joined the Graduate Periodontology team at the U of M in the early 2018. She graduated the Dental Assistant program at Century College in 2015. Tina volunteers at Adopt-A-River and enjoys doing oral hygiene demonstrations for her son’s elementary school. In her spare time she enjoys doing outdoor activities with her family and puppy.

Front Desk
Leyna Coppersmith
Leyna just recently joined the Graduate Periodontology team in September 2018, but has been with the School of Dentistry for a little over a year. She has over 20 years of experience in Healthcare Management. A native of Minnesota, she moved back from Arizona in 2017 and is happy to be home. She has two children and enjoys showing them all of the wonderful things that Minnesota has to offer.

Administrative Specialist
Shelby LaFreniere
Shelby has been working in the Division of Periodontology since April of 2018, but has worked in the School of Dentistry since early 2017. She serves on the school’s Diversity Committee and intends to pursue a Master’s degree within the College of Education + Human Development while continuing her position within the division. Shelby enjoys biking, travelling and spending time with her ever-growing family.

Hygienist
Patricia Doughty
Patricia has been a dental hygienist for 40 years. She graduated from Mankato State University. After all these years, she still thoroughly enjoys what she does. Her patients make her job the best in the world. She has 3 married children and 7 grandchildren. She loves to read and sew in her spare time and spend time with family. Patricia recently retired in September of 2018.

Perio Clinic Manager/ Hygienist
Liisa Durkot
Liisa joined the division in September of 1987. She continues to see recall patients along with her administrative duties. Her daughter Emily is 20 and is a junior at the U of MN. Her son Andrew is 23 and has just begun graduate school at the U of MN. Liisa and Dave enjoy spending time at their home in northern Wisconsin and watching Andrew and Emily perform with the U of MN Marching Band while attending Gopher football games.
The following have made donations at any time to the periodontology funds at the University of Minnesota. The donors who gave between January 1, 2017 and August 10, 2018 are italicized.

We strive for accuracy when preparing these lists and apologize for any errors that may appear. Please feel free to contact us if there are any errors or omissions. For more information about donating, see page 6. Thank you to all of our wonderful alumni and donors for everything that you do.
Thank You Donors!

Periodontology Fund Donors to the University of Minnesota (Continued)

$500-$999 (Continued)
Joyce E. Johnson
Morton Klepp
Leilani L. LaBelle
LaBelle Periodontics
Donald E. Lareau
Rebecca Egge Moos
Caroline L. Morrison
Arthur W. Nelson
William J. Schult DDS PA
Joan S. Strawus
Michael K. Sutley
Simon D. Tran
Johan W. Wohlfahrt
Zimmer Inc.

Up to $499
Dorothee M. Aeppli
Douglas B. Akers
The American Board of Periodontology
Karl A. Anderson
Bashar Bakdash
Leo E. Bell
Laura Lo Bianco
Grishondra Branch-Mays
Jeffrey F. Carlson
Grace Chiu
Bartholomew E. Corcoran
Massimo Costalonga
Kenneth F. Dayton
Don Dufek
Eau Claire Periodontics LLC
Stephan S. Eidam
Patrick J. Ennen
Phillip J. Ernst
Kimberly J. Fabre
Jeffrey P. Foster
Carol A. Franzen
Nathan L. Freidson
Albert Frydman
Carol B. Gamble
Garvey Anderson Kelly & Ryberg
Douglas E. Gothier
Mark C. Herzberg
Donna M. & Donald G. Hessburg
Thomas E. Hoover
Kent A. Hove
Betty Howard
Hvass Weisman & King Chartered
Willis B. Irons
James R. Jensen
Robert M. Johnson
Eileen C. & Charles L. Kadley
Lois J. Karl
Thomas V. Kassube
Amy E. & David G. Klump
David A. Lankford
Martin Lin
Scott B. McClanahan & Deborah K. Johnson
Henry J. Menke
Bryan S. Michalowicz
Midwest Academy-Prosthodontics
John P. Molloy
Denise O’Brien
William J. O’Brien
Cesar Ortiz
Stig K. Osterberg
David P. Pazandak
Susan M. Peralta-Dewey & Bradley W. Dewey
Periodontal Care PA
Periodontal Health Group PA
James J. Potocnik
Edgar D. Rajek
Conrad A. Razidlo

Saint Cloud Dental Society
Keerthana M. Satheesh & Ravindra Sheshappa
Emily M. Schmalz
Sedation & Implant Dentistry
Harjit S. Sehgal
Louise M. Shand
Mark J. Silvers
Daniel D. Skaar
Bert Sommerman
Southern Minnesota Periodontics PA
Barbara A. Sundt
David L. Tagge
Keir B. Townsend
Ching Yin Tseng
Chuen-Chyi Tseng
James Tseng
John H. Warford
Ardis L. Willey
Russell A. Winge
William A. Woehrmann
Ying-Lien Wu

AEPP Fall 2018
The University of Minnesota Advanced Education in Periodontology will be participating in the dental Matching program for the upcoming 2019-2020 year. This is through the National Matching Services Inc (NMS). Applications will continue to be through the ADEA PASS central application service.

**Alumni News**

**Dr. Vasiliki Koidou**

Dr. Koidou completed an ITI fellowship at the QMU of London and started practicing as a specialist periodontist in private practices in London. She has just commenced a PhD at QMU of London at the Centre for Immunobiology and Regenerative Medicine, where she will investigate the healing of infrabony defects following minimally invasive periodontal treatments. Villy published her master thesis in the highly prestigious journal *Biomaterials Science* under the title "Peptide Coatings to Improve Periimplant Mucosal Seal." This May, Villy will become a Diplomate of the American Board of Periodontology.

**Dr. Elias Kersten**

Dr. Kersten became a Diplomate of the American Board of Periodontology, and he recently made the transition from associate to partner at Metropolitan Periodontists with Dr. Mark Wilson.

**Dr. Tamir Shalev**

Dr. Shalev is currently teaching part-time at Tel Aviv University. He is spending his time focusing on undergraduate students and participating in weekly seminars with the graduate clinic residents. Additionally, Dr. Shalev is working in a private clinic in his home town of Beer-Sheva and volunteering in several underprivileged clinics. He is planning on pursuing AAP diplomate status this year.

Got alumni news for the 2019 newsletter? Email us and let us know at sodperio@umn.edu

---

**AEPP to participate in the Postdoctoral Dental Matching Program**

Division of Periodontology

7-368 Moos Health Sciences Tower
515 Delaware Street S.E.
Minneapolis, MN 55455

612-625-5166 ph
612-626-2652 fax

[https://www.dentistry.umn.edu/degrees-programs/advanced-education-programs/periodontology](https://www.dentistry.umn.edu/degrees-programs/advanced-education-programs/periodontology)