

# Orthogators

DECEMBER 2013

## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



After serving as interim chair of the department for a year, I was officially appointed chair on Oct. 25, 2013. I am extremely proud to have been entrusted

with responsibility of managing all aspects of the department including the resident educational programs, clinical operations, research endeavors and alumni affairs. We have many challenges ahead including our college's upcoming accreditation of the DMD program, and a need for continued growth of our strong research program.

Dental schools are accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) and CODA is part of the American Dental Association (ADA). CODA accredits U.S. dental schools and advanced dental education programs, as well as allied dental education programs. CODA sends site inspectors from other dental institutions who review our ability to meet six CODA standards that are set for dental schools. Our inspection is scheduled for February 2015. Between now and 2015 the college will complete a "self study" to assess and report, on our own, how we are meeting the six standards that are set by CODA that need to be met to maintain our accreditation. The final report is due to CODA and the site inspectors in December 2014.

The self-study phase of our accreditation launched in September 2013 and will run through December 2014. Along with this process

we're also undergoing a major DMD curriculum revision.

In addition, a search for a new dean for the college has begun following Terri Dolan's retirement after 11 years serving as our dean. We expect that a new dean will be selected and begin his/her tenure by July 2014. I look forward to these and any other challenges that come our way and will work hard to assure our continued success.

## NEW FACULTY MEMBER

In November 2013 Jim Morrish, D.D.S., joined our faculty as a part-time instructor. Morrish earned his dental degree from Emory University Dental School in 1981 and came to the University of Florida to earn his certificate in orthodontics as part of the fourth graduating class in 1983. He has been practicing in Bradenton, Fla., for more than 30 years. He says that teaching is his passion and his activities reflect that -- he is an adjunct clinical professor at Nova Southeastern Dental School in the Department of Orthodontics and is also the coordinator of the Florida Damon Study Club. He has been married to Vicki for 28 years. They have four children (Jessica 26, Trey 24, Andrew 21, Chris 16). We are pleased to have him on board with our team and we all look forward to learning from his years of experience in the profession.

Thank you for your support of our program. I look forward to getting to know all of you better and working with you in the coming years.

Sincerely,

*Cal Dolce, D.D.S., Ph.D.*  
Professor and Chair



*Jim Morrish*

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

*Florida  
National Dental  
Convention  
"CREATING A  
MASTERPIECE"  
JUNE 12-14, 2014*

Join your friends, colleagues and fellow Gator Dentists during a special reception on Friday, June 13, during the official meeting of the Florida Dental Association. More information at [floridadental.org](http://floridadental.org)

## RESIDENT NEWS

### FIRST YEAR RESIDENTS



*Melissa Alfonso*

**Melissa Alfonso** is a Cuban American who was born and raised in Miami, Fla. As an undergraduate at UF, Melissa majored in political science with a minor in chemistry. She completed the honors program, served as president of her sorority Phi Mu Fraternity, and spent a semester studying abroad in Rome, Italy. Melissa continued her education at the UF College of Dentistry where she served as president of the American Association of Women Dentists, vice president of the Orthodontics Interest Group, treasurer of the Hispanic Student Dental Association and trip coordinator for the Dominican Republic Service Trip in 2011. She graduated dental school Magna Cum Laude and was inducted into Omicron Kappa Upsilon, Xi Omicron chapter. Melissa hopes to return to South Florida after graduation to practice orthodontics and become an active member in the community.



*Chelsea Brockway*

**Chelsea Brockway** was born and raised in St. Petersburg, Fla., where she attended St. Petersburg Catholic High School and participated in tennis, dance and cheerleading. While she was in high school, she worked part-time for Dr. Ruth Berry, an orthodontist who treated her. Dr. Berry inspired Brockway to become an orthodontist. She graduated with a bachelor's in nutrition from UF, and attended Columbia University for dental school where she enjoyed the fast-paced, city life in Manhattan. Although it was a bittersweet departure from New York, she was thrilled to be accepted into UF for her orthodontic residency, where she volunteered as an undergrad. She feels that being back at UF for residency really makes her life come full-circle. Plus she's happy to be home in the sunshine state, close to the Gators and to her family, while striving to do the best she can in residency.



*Nick Mann*

**Nick Mann** was born and raised in Tampa, Fla., where he attended the International Baccalaureate Program at Hillsborough High School, lettering in wrestling and swimming three of the four years. He moved to Gainesville in 2002 to attend UF where he majored in mechanical engineering. When he was a senior he accepted a co-op at Siemens Power Generation, working as a gas turbine engineer in Orlando for seven months and realized that engineering was not his true passion. He feels lucky to have stumbled upon dentistry through a friend who was pursuing orthodontics. He spent the next two years finishing his engineering requirements and added prerequisites for dental school to his curriculum. In 2009 he was accepted at UF's College of Dentistry where he took on several leadership roles within ASDA, Alpha Omega and the Orthodontic Interest Group. He was later inducted into OKU, graduated Cum Laude and was thrilled to be accepted into our orthodontic residency program. During his time here, he looks forward to continuing his long tradition of holding season tickets to Florida football (12 years and counting) and developing a strong foundation in orthodontics. Upon graduating, he is open to relocating and practicing where the best opportunity presents.



*Angela McNeight*

**Angela (Angie) McNeight** was born and raised in Indian Harbour Beach, Fla. She attended Melbourne Central Catholic High School and continued her education at Emory University in Atlanta, Ga. While pursuing a degree in neuroscience and behavioral biology, Angie also completed a double major in biology and a minor in Spanish. For a year after graduating, Angie served as a national leadership consultant for her sorority (Kappa Kappa Gamma) traveling unaccompanied to over 35 chapters across many states and Canada. Her interest in dentistry grew from the fact that her mother was a dental hygienist, and she always put the highest importance on achieving excellent oral health. While attending the UF College of Dentistry, Angie served as her class vice president and an admissions committee representative, received the Hinman Award at the Thomas P. Hinman conference, was inducted into Omicron Kappa Upsilon dental honor society, and graduated cum laude. She is excited to continue her education here in Gainesville for her orthodontics residency during the next three years. She would ultimately like to practice in Florida and is open to new and exciting challenges.

## SPOTLIGHT ON THIRD YEAR RESIDENTS

*Recently two of our third year residents, Neha Patel and Nancy Huynh enjoyed a trip to Tuscon, Az., to learn from the Charles H. Tweed International Foundation. They shared their thoughts about the experience in this thank you note.*



“We had an amazing time down in Tucson all thanks to the UF Department of Orthodontics and the Tweed Study Course team! The department was integral in allowing us to achieve our dream of bending wires the way Charles Tweed used to! Their patience and commitment to helping us learn to perfect the techniques was greatly appreciated, and we are excited to integrate these techniques in the treatment of our own patients back here in Florida. We were also able to gain a better perspective on how to incorporate these techniques into a private practice setting from their own experience and tips.

Attached is a photo of us from Tweed, and we wanted to share it with you! We will forever keep memories of drinking mounds of coffee, dunking wax typodonts in water, poking ourselves numerous times with 21x25 SS wires, burning our fingertips with a butane flame, eating tamales, and focusing on “Faces First” near and dear to our hearts!”

*-- Neha Patel and Nancy Huynh*

## KEEP IN TOUCH

The college is working to improve outreach efforts to program alumni and friends and, in the interest of saving trees and money, we are shifting as much as possible to email and other electronic forms of communication.

To update your contact information, please email us at [alumniandfriends@dental.ufl.edu](mailto:alumniandfriends@dental.ufl.edu). And for more about news and events at the college, please visit our website at [www.dental.ufl.edu](http://www.dental.ufl.edu).

## CONTINUING DENTAL EDUCATION

Keep up on the latest techniques and materials and learn about innovative practice management solutions through the college’s Continuing Dental Education programs. We offer short and long courses in various locations around the state. But you can visit one website to get all the information you need: [dental.ufl.edu/continuing-education/](http://dental.ufl.edu/continuing-education/)

## CONNECT WITH US

 [facebook.com/UFDentistry](https://facebook.com/UFDentistry)

 [twitter.com/UFLDentistry](https://twitter.com/UFLDentistry)

 [dental.ufl.edu](http://dental.ufl.edu)



## A HALLOWEEN TRADITION

Some traditions never die and this is one of them. The staff, faculty and residents in the Ortho Grad Clinic continue the tradition of dressing up for Halloween. This year a group joined together in a Toy Story theme. Another group sported a Super Heroes theme. Patients, young and old, enjoyed the fun energy.