



The Harry L. Dougherty
& Keith Tanaka
Orthodontic Foundation

DTOF Newsletter

Winter 2015

Steiner/Sinclair Lecture

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Friday, January 23, 2015

8:00am - 4:00pm

Radisson Hotel Los Angeles Midtown at USC
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Advance Registration \$250

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16795 Lark Avenue, Suite 104
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info@dtof.org

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Advance Registration Deadline

EXTENDED!!!!

January 19, 2015

Tribute to our Donors

We thank all of our loyal and faithful donors for their support of DTOF. In this issue we pay tribute to those donors who have donated since January 1, 2007 through December 31, 2014.

Platinum (\$50,000+)

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Tribute to our Donors

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Pacific Coast Society Of Orthodontists
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Commemorative Plaque Deadline

EXTENDED

February 15th

If you would like to have your name on the Commemorative Plaque please contact DTOF at info@dtof.org or call us at 213-785-2210

In Memory of Harry L. Dougherty, Sr.

Thank you to the following donors that gave a specific donation in memory of Dr. Dougherty. The individuals above the line gave a gift of over \$1,000 and will be honored with their name on a commemorative plaque.

Dr. Ralph Allman	Dr. Lou Mascola
Dr. Jack Anderson	Dr. Randal Morita
Dr. Rich Anthony	Dr. Aki Nishiura
Dr. John Aschieris	Dr. Dave Pair
Dr. Dick Bauer	Dr. Patti Panucci
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Dr. Lili Horton	Dr. Rouzbeh Zoka

California Association Of Orthodontists
 Pacific Coast Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery
 Pacific Coast Society Of Orthodontists

President's Message

by Dr. Jim Loos



Congratulations to Dr. Sameshima for another year of producing excellent orthodontic graduates and attracting a superb first year class. The first week at their introductory typodont class they proved themselves to be attentive, talented and hard working.

Some news about DTOF:

We are still striving for donations for the foundation to help us support the department in areas of need not provided by the University. With the help of Ron Redmond we co-sponsored an iTero machine, and we are raising money for a commemorative plaque honoring Dr. Harry Dougherty Sr. Our Steiner Sinclair meeting in January should be well attended and is featuring a very popular speaker.

The foundation is planning to open nominations for Board positions to have some new blood with fresh ideas to help us to move productively forward. Please let us know of any ideas you have for board positions.

Editorial:

I have been inspired to answer some criticism about our program's graduates beginning their orthodontic careers in the world of Corporate-owned dental practices.

For the last several years, one half to two thirds of our graduates have gone to work for offices owned by corporations, often because of limited opportunities available in private practices.

As most of you are aware, the cost of an orthodontic education is very high. Even though the training is excellent at USC, and the prospect of a great return on the investment in an orthodontic education is reasonably assured, the payback costs are of immediate and great concern upon graduation. It is not uncommon for a graduate in orthodontics to have eight to nine hundred thousand dollars in student loan debt (for undergraduate, dental school and orthodontic residency costs). One graduate from two years ago has a \$10,000 per month loan for 15 years. In this day and age, when it is no longer viable to just go out and "hang up your shingle," there is a need for immediate and gainful opportunities for our new orthodontists. In many instances, corporate-owned practices can offer that opportunity.

Yes, some believe that a world of all private orthodontic offices charging full fees would be best. Others think that Dental Plans and corporate-owned dental offices provide convenience and pricing that is attractive to those with fewer dollars to spend and for the underserved. As such, these practices may fill an important role in the dental practice "ecology."

From a new graduate's perspective, several benefits come from a position with a corporate-owned practice. Some attractions are an instant and predictable income, the freedom to practice the profession to the best of the orthodontist's ability, no need for marketing him or herself to attract patients, no hiring or firing, sick leave and maternity leave are not a problem, instant busyness with a large number of patients to treat to gain experience, and a network of fellow orthodontists from whom to obtain mentoring.

The ability to be productive immediately after graduation allows time for those who wish for a private practice to develop skills, learn practice management, and search for the perfect location or practice to start or purchase.

(President's Message Continued)

Currently USC has a few dozen graduates in a corporate environment who are treating patients to excellent outcomes.

The flip side of practicing for anyone else may be that the practice locations are not always desirable, travel to several offices to maintain a full schedule of days is a possibility, staff members may need additional training, as a new orthodontist in the practice several hundred transfer patients need to be evaluated, and the earning potential is not unlimited. For these and other reasons most orthodontic students, when questioned, have the goal of eventually owning their own practice.

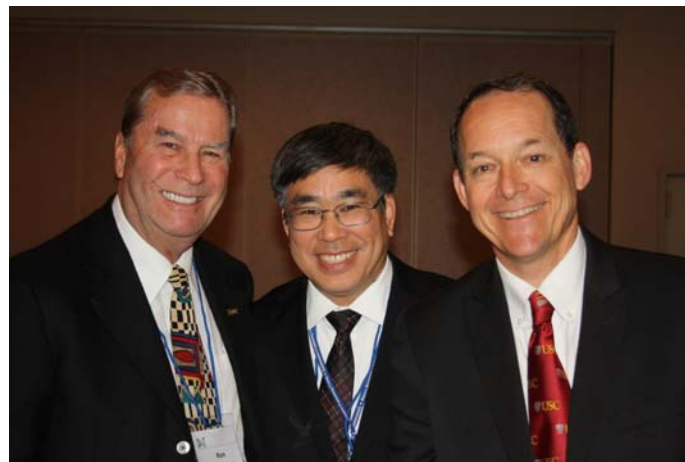
For those who do not want a private practice and the associated business, regulatory and management details, working for a corporate-owned practice can be a viable alternative for a lifelong career.

Whatever an individual orthodontist's perspective is, it is unquestionable that we are blessed to be in one of the greatest professions of all.

**See you at the
Steiner Sinclair meeting on January 23rd**



Scenes from the 2014 Steiner/Sinclair Lecture and Dougherty Memorial



Department Update

by Dr. Glenn Sameshima



Greetings from the program. Another busy year has gone by and a lot has happened. We bade farewell to Sir Harry Dougherty earlier in the year with a well-attended celebration of his wonderful life. Harry certainly lived life to its fullest and was “the most interesting man in the world” during his lifetime. His many notable contributions to our profession and our program ensure his place in history. His legacy and the ideals he stood for will continue to be honored and taught forever.

We also celebrated the graduation of our Class of 2014.

Dr Hany Youssef, originally from Alexandria, Egypt, decided to stay in southern California. Hany has already taken and passed all parts of the ABO examination.

Dr. Esther Moon got married then moved to New York City while her husband is in an oral surgery residency. She seems to have gotten used to dealing with New Yorkers.

Dr. Dovi Prero from Chicago decided to stay in his wife’s hometown Beverly Hills, and is associating with Hap Dougherty out in the valley.

Dr. John Pham is practicing in the local area. He and his wife are busy with their baby boy.

Dr. Andy Seymour went home to Arizona. Andy won this year’s award for best cases. Andy’s wit and gift of gab are already sorely missed.

Dr. Cabot Denny is commuting to a job in Texas. Bob Denny must be smiling that wry grin of his just about now with fatherly pride.

The class honored Dr Jim Loos and Dr. John Trotter as instructors of the year. Ellen Grady also received well deserved recognition from the class.

In June we welcomed the Class of 2017. Despite the tuition, we continue to attract the finest students in the land. For the first time in USC ortho history, we have an all-female class but if you look at the demographics of US college students this was only a matter of time. They are certainly a talented, hard-working group. We have Drs Nicole Ranney, Heather Stephens, and Kristina Sakas from USC, Dr. Natalie Dang from UCLA, Dr. Amanda Budiman from NYU (grew up in LA), and Bethany Chong from Baylor. Natalie’s mom is an SC dentist who was classmates with Hap Dougherty, and Kristina’s mom was Russell Chang’s classmate in ortho at Northwestern.

Our residents were in the news at USC this year. During his time as a resident, John Pham won over \$300,000 in grants from USC including the highly prestigious Maseeh Entrepreneurship Prize Competition (MEPC), the “Academy Awards for USC Viterbi startups,” a first for the department. John’s company ComfortCorrect will be producing what he and co-developer Hong Sheng Tong (USC ortho), Behrokh Khoshnevis and Yong Chen (USC engineering) promise to be” affordably priced high-tech braces with the effectiveness of conventional braces and the comfort of Invisalign” thanks to a revolutionary” programmable memory” wire. Another resident, second year student Ryan Hungate, won the New Venture Seed Competition sponsored by The Lloyd Greif Center for Entrepreneurial Studies at the USC Marshall School of Business. Ryan won over 160 other applicants. Ryan’s company ARO has patented a wearable computing system integrating Google Glass and existing medical record database software. It is pretty amazing to see how it works.

(Department Update Continued)

We finally got our iTero intraoral scanner and we are impressed about how well it does what it is supposed to. Most new technology is all hype and no substance but this scanner is great. We won a grant from Align Technology so we will be getting another one for research purposes in the next few months. We are looking at how well we can look at the real time scans for progress reviews and pre-debonding case evaluation.



The acquisition of the scanner and many other things that we need on an urgent basis such as the new lcd projector, new computers for the clinic, and funding for students to present their work at meetings, would not be possible without alumni support. Although it is often comical how complicated the university makes it to spend the money, rest assured that we value every cent we receive and put it towards the things we need to keep the program going.

Our junior faculty Dan Grauer with volunteer faculty Hap Dougherty has started a Monday night orthognathic surgery conference that has finally taken our resident training of surgery cases to the level we have been seeking for a long time. Dr Robert Relle, surgeon extraordinaire, attends the meetings and he, Dan, and Hap teach the students how to diagnose, treat, and understand some very tough cases.

Technology is fun but what every one of our seniors tells me when they leave is that is the faculty that makes our program what it is. How can you thank orthodontists who are the best in the land giving up an entire day with no pay or benefits coming down to SC to teach our students? The school and university do not make it any easier for them with an incessant barrage of nuisance regulations and restrictions, and ludicrous "credentialing" standards (e.g "why do we have to have a TB test every year? Isn't an active California license, clean record, ABO good enough?"). For a university intent on raising billions of dollars, there isn't much of a visible effort to support the excellent faculty and staff we have. I cannot express how much I appreciate their dedication and certainly share their frustration at the lack of such shown by the university.

Accreditation is the big thing for the school and department coming up in April next year. This every seven year inspection requires many hours of preparation (extra work!) but forces us to really evaluate the program and to make changes to keep the program moving forward and staying ahead of the pack. We really haven't made any major changes in the program since moving up here from the basement back in 1997.

We have two visiting scholars this year. Dr. Aki Nishiura is from Osaka Dental University where Harry and Dr T gave summer courses for many, many years, and probably understands Harry's mechanics as well as any of us. Dr. Xue Yu is from Guangzhou, China. He is a full time faculty member at Sun Yat Sen dental college which is noteworthy as the school that Steve Yen's father helped create many years ago.

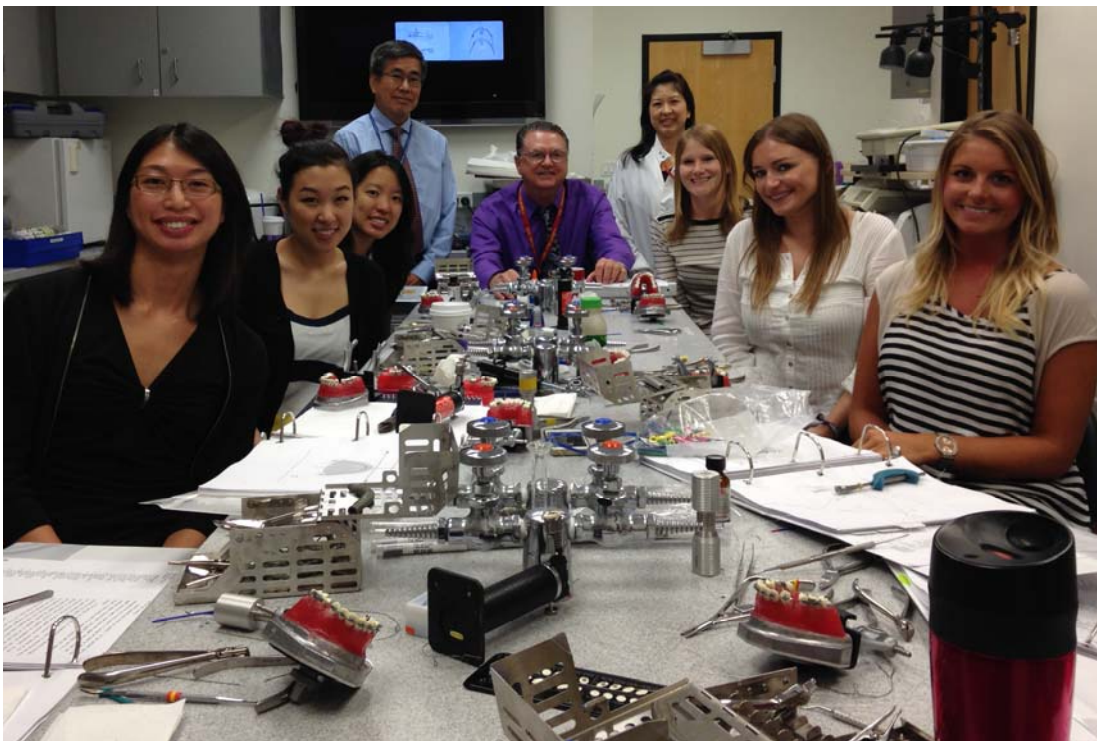
Finally I wish to once again thank all of you for your support of the department. We still have a lot to accomplish and we cannot do it without you as we work to keep our place among the elite ortho programs in the US and the world.

Fight on!

Congratulations to the 2014 Graduates



Welcome Class of 2017



From left to right:

- Dr. Natalie Dang
- Dr. Bethany Chong
- Dr. Amanda Budiman
- Dr. Sameshima
- Dr. Loos
- Dr. Aki Nishiura, Japan
- Dr. Heather Stephens
- Dr. Kristina Sakas
- Dr. Nicole Ranney