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ORTHODONTICS

# University of Louisville School of Dentistry Orthodontic Alumni Council



## 2024 Newsletter

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## ***Chairman's Statement***

I would like to thank our council for putting on another excellent meeting this year. It was well attended and great to reacquaint with old friends. We will try to get next year's meeting in early November and have the night-before event at Churchill Downs.

I also want to recognize Dr. Gudhimella as our new program director. She accepted this position a few months ago and has hit the ground running. I am excited about the future of our program.

Finally, Dr. Deguchi has been impressed with our alumni association and encourages any of you to give a lunch-and-learn or lecture. We have had a few a last year and thank you to those who participated. Residents are eager to hear how the real world works.

Thanks to all who attended this year and to those who helped plan this event and to our presenting sponsor Solventum. Enjoy [pictures from the Annual Meeting on Flickr](#).

Please mark your calendar for our next gathering at our **AAO reception** in Philadelphia on **Friday, April 25, 2025**, from **5:45-7:15pm ET**. We will be at the **Philadelphia Marriott Downtown**.

Go Cards!

Bob Spiller, DMD '80, Ortho '90  
Chair, Orthodontic Alumni Council

## ***Wrap-Up of the 2024 Meeting***

In October, the University of Louisville Orthodontic Alumni Council held its annual meeting at Lynn Family Stadium in Louisville. For those not familiar, this beautiful facility was built for our professional women's and men's soccer teams and is a great addition to the Louisville landscape. The Alumni and residents had a fun get together the night before at Against the Grain Brewery, where they played a rousing game of trivia – which the residents won. A special thanks to Gary Jennings and Justin Trisler who picked up the tab. The meeting was presented and sponsored by Solventum (3M) and consisted of two speakers. Dr. Lisa Davidson and Dr. Megan LeCornu both gave excellent lectures on practice management, aligner treatment, and how they incorporate indirect bonding in their practice.

During lunch, Dr. Daisy Wyatt introduced her father Dr. David Wyatt as the recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award. This award is given to a graduate who has exceeded expectations. Dr. Wyatt graduated from the UK College of Dentistry and served in the military. Upon completion of his service, he was accepted to the UofL Orthodontic program. He graduated in 1993 and started a practice in the Nashville area. Soon thereafter he began teaching in our program and has been making the drive from Nashville to Louisville for over 30 years. He not only taught orthodontics but also mentored the residents in numerous areas including practice management, finances, contracts and in general how to be an Orthodontist. His commitment to teaching is to be admired and he has truly impacted many lives and well deserving of this award. Thank you, Dr. Wyatt.



# **Dr. Robert A. Escher Endowed Graduate Orthodontics Scholarship**

Congratulations to this year's recipient, Dr. Sierra Burick!

Established by Amy B. Farnsworth, DMD '92, '95 in 2014, this endowment provides scholarship support to a second-year resident. The Director of the Orthodontic Graduate Program, in conjunction with the department chair, recommends a candidate who has shown exemplary skill and performance during the first year of the program and the Dean of the School of Dentistry makes the final selection for the scholarship.

*Photo: Dr. Farnsworth with our Robert Escher Award recipient Dr. Burick*

## *Past Recipients*

- 2017 Evan Cox, DMD, MS
- 2018 Caleb Reece, DMD, MS
- 2019 Parker D. Haycock, DMD MS
- 2020 Brenna Christensen, DMD, MS
- 2021 Stephen Stotts, DMD, MS
- 2022 Jansen Nash DMD, MS
- 2023 Heather Swinson, DDS, MS



**Thank you to our Presenting Sponsor:**



Thank you, 2024 exhibitors!



Transforming smiles, changing lives.



## **Thank You to our Sponsors**

We truly appreciate our sponsors. If you use them, please give them a special thanks.

- Solventum 3M*
- American Orthodontics*
- IvisAlign*
- Dental Monitoring*
- Dentaurum*
- MCF Solutions*
- Dentsply-Sirona SureSmile*
- Southern Orthodontic Partners*



## Endowment/Gift Update

Endowment/Gift Account	Book Value as of 10/31/24	Market Value as of 10/31/24	Balance as of 10/31/24
Johnson Endowment	\$1,058,921	\$1,197,611	
Resident Endowment	\$34,650	\$42,758	
Escher Scholarship	\$20,950	\$26,791	
Resident Gift Fund	n/a	n/a	\$73,985

- ❖ Johnson Endowment: Supports the recruitment and retention of a full-time faculty member
- ❖ Resident Endowment: Supports professional development for Ortho residents
- ❖ Escher Scholarship: Supports a scholarship for a second year Ortho resident
- ❖ Resident Gift Fund: Supports professional development for Ortho residents.

### A message from our Chairman, Dr. Toru Deguchi:

*The Orthodontic department financially supports sending residents to the SAO, Tweed course, AAO, Moyers symposium and initiating multiple research projects especially related to aligner outcome studies, diagnostic systems utilizing artificial intelligence, and direct print aligner studies. Your past contributions have allowed us to accomplish these goals, and I sincerely hope you will consider donating again. Thank you.*

To learn more about how you can join in imparting dental education through your giving, please contact: **Megan Carbello**, CFRE, Sr. Director of Development, 502-852-5496, [megan.carbello@louisville.edu](mailto:megan.carbello@louisville.edu).

## 2025 AAO Meetings

- ❖ Winter Conference January 24-26, 2025, Marco Island, FL.
- ❖ Annual Session April 25-27, 2025, Philadelphia, PA. **Please mark your calendar for our reception on Friday, April 25, 2025, from 5:45-7:15pm ET. We will be at the Philadelphia Marriott Downtown.**



## **Alumni Council**

Dr. Robert E. Spiller Jr. '80, '90	<i>Chair</i>
Dr. Lauren Renaud '18, '20	<i>Vice Chair</i>
Dr. Jacob H. Britt '21	<i>1<sup>st</sup> Director and Secretary</i>
Dr. Ariel B. Wong '20	<i>2<sup>nd</sup> Director</i>
Dr. Gary L. Jennings '99	<i>3<sup>rd</sup> Director</i>
Dr. Carl D. Gioia '11, '13	<i>Immediate Past Chair</i>
<b>Members:</b>	
Dr. Raina S. Chandiramani '18	Dr. Krushan C. Patel '19
Dr. Jared O. Dean '09	Dr. Danielle L. Periago '05, '07
Dr. Ralph J. DeDomenico '74, '77	Dr. Carmen A. Quirk '17, '19
Dr. Amy B. Farnsworth '92, '95	Dr. David C. Small '95
Dr. Eric W. Hickman '95	Dr. Heather Swinson '24
Dr. Scott Q. Little '85	Dr. Justin M. Trisler '12
Dr. John K. Newcomb '07	Dr. Lane Steinhaus '24
Dr. Brianna Bailey '25	<i>Resident Representative</i>
Dr. Kiara Kim '26	<i>Resident Representative</i>
Dr. Brittany Gehlhausen '26	<i>Resident Representative</i>

Anyone having questions or wishing to join please contact Dr. Bob Spiller at spillfam@aol.com

## **Special Thanks**

Our council does a great job preparing for the meeting but most of the work is accomplished by the following people. Thank you all!

*Danielle Brown  
Megan Carbello  
Caitlin Maguire*



*Photo: Danielle and Caitlin*

## ***Program Director's Report***

2024 has been an exciting and productive year for our program. I am thrilled to share that we welcomed Dr. Shubam Sharma as a full-time faculty member and Dr. Gary Jennings, our own alumnus, as a part-time faculty member. Both have brought immense value to our team. We are actively searching for another full-time faculty member and several part-time faculty members to further strengthen our program.

This September, I had the honor of taking over as the Program Director, and I am grateful for the opportunity to work with such talented faculty, staff, and residents. I look forward to working together to continue advancing our program's excellence.

Next summer, we are planning a graduate orthodontics clinic renovation to provide our residents, faculty, and patients with an updated and enhanced facility that supports a more efficient and effective learning and clinical environment.

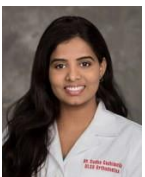
Our residents have had an outstanding year. In August, all our residents attended GORP. Additionally, the senior residents attended the Tweed course in September and the Invisalign conference in November. Starting next year, we hope to send our residents to the SAO Conference, and we are requesting alumni for their generous support in making this initiative possible. Your contributions will help us continue providing residents with exceptional opportunities for professional growth.

This year, we received approximately 265 applications for our residency program. After a highly competitive selection process, we are proud to welcome an exceptional group of residents who will make up the Class of 2027. I would like to thank Drs. Deguchi, Sharma, Spiller, Gioia, Wyatt, and Renaud for serving on the Resident Selection Committee. Their dedication and insight were instrumental in identifying and recruiting the best candidates for our program.

In addition, we are excited to announce an increase in our class size starting next year. We will now welcome six residents through the Match program and one additional resident through the U.S. Army, further expanding the reach and impact of our program.

Our current residents have also demonstrated remarkable accomplishments. The Class of 2024 excelled in the ABO written examination, with every resident successfully passing and thriving in their clinical practice. From the Class of 2023, Dr. Bhumika Patel successfully passed the ABO clinical examination, showcasing the excellence that defines our program.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to our alumni, faculty and residents for their dedication and commitment to the success of our program. Together, we continue to make a lasting impact in the field of orthodontics, and I am excited to see what the coming year holds for us all.



Sincerely,  
Dr. Sudha Gudhimella

## *Resident Report*

All of us residents at the University of Louisville are extremely appreciative of our alumni and extend a very warm thank you to all of you! It goes without saying, without you and your generous support, our program would not be what it is today. Louisville's program stands out as the exceptional program it is in a notable way thanks to our alumni.

We feel this support as we work on patients in our alumni donated dental chairs, and soon to be a newly renovated clinic. We feel fortunate and grateful to have support for our learning excursions, where we have the unique opportunity to attend lectures and expand our education, meet celebrated colleagues in the field, and make unforgettable memories with our coresidents and faculty. We had opportunities to attend GORP, KAO, UofL Alumni Meeting, AAO, and Tweed.



*Residents at GORP '24*

The Tweed course in Tucson, Arizona is a most recent addition to our program, and not only did we form arches there (yes, we developed such amazing wire bending skills our fingers were raw), but we also formed special memories and new relationships.



*Residents at Churchill Downs*

And of the most appreciated gifts are those of your time and expertise. We are extremely grateful for our alumni who have donated in the form of mentorship and education, both at the school and in their own offices. The value of learning directly from you about business, practice management, finances, clear aligners, employment, and treatment planning, to name a few, is absolutely priceless.

Over the past year or so, we have had quite a handful, and we're so proud of it - Drs. Krushan Patel, Jacob Britt, Brian Glatt, Aron Dellinger, Christopher Edelen, Amy Farnsworth, Eric Hickman, Scott Little, Raina Chandiramani, Maz Moshiri, Greg Inman and Thomas Baldwin, Damon DeArment, and Wade Hillam, have all traveled to our school as guests to lecture on various orthodontic topics or soon will! And of course, we are so privileged throughout every week, to have remarkable alumni as part time faculty, Drs. Rob Spiller, David Wyatt, Carl Gioia, Lauren Renaud, and recently and excitingly, Dr. Gary Jennings. And of course, our compassionate previous program director, Dr. Sunita Chandiramani. We are deeply appreciative every day that we have access to such knowledgeable and passionate alumni!

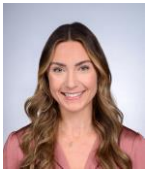


We would love to invite any alumni to reach out if you are interested in visiting and lecturing to share your knowledge and expertise gained after residency. Please contact our resident council representatives, Brianna Bailey (brianna.bailey.1@louisville.edu), Kiara Kim (s0kim053@louisville.edu), or Brittany Gehlhausen (begeh101@louisville.edu) if you are interested. And follow along with all our happenings and updates on our UofL Orthodontic Instagram page [@uoflortho!](#)

We are so grateful for each and every one of our alumni. You help us feel a part of the bigger picture. We have learned valuable tools, formed meaningful relationships as mentees, colleagues, and friends. And we very much look forward to joining you all as alumni in the near future.



*Recent '24 Graduates with now Senior Residents*



*Dr. Brianna Bailey '25*