**Highlights of our Research Activities**

**Graduation of Class of 2007 Approaching**

In just a couple of months we will see another graduating group of new orthodontic graduates. It will be a momentous occasion, as we bid farewell to the class of 2007. This year’s graduating class has been selected as a finalist for the national student paper award in the field of orthodontics. The Orthodontics Program continues to maintain a tradition of excellence in teaching and research, benefiting the students and the patients that we treat. While we are all proud of the careers that our graduates embarked on, we are even more proud of the achievements that they have accomplished since graduation. The Orthodontics Program has a long history of producing successful orthodontists, and we are proud to continue this tradition.

**Dr. Vivian H.W. Chan**

Dr. Vivian H.W. Chan has been selected as a finalist for the national student paper award in the field of orthodontics. She has published extensively on the topics of craniofacial anomalies and orthodontic therapy. Her research has focused on the development of new treatment modalities and the improvement of existing ones. Dr. Chan’s work has been recognized nationally and internationally, and she is highly regarded by her peers.

**Dr. David C. Freeman**

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**Dr. Don Burkhardt**

Dr. Don Burkhardt has been selected as a finalist for the national student paper award in the field of orthodontics. He has published extensively on the topics of craniofacial anomalies and orthodontic therapy. His research has focused on the development of new treatment modalities and the improvement of existing ones. Dr. Burkhardt’s work has been recognized nationally and internationally, and he is highly regarded by his peers.

**A Message from the President of the Alumni Association**

Hello all!

This year, the Alumni Association is holding a variety of events and activities to bring our members together. We have planned a series of events that will feature alumni speakers and panel discussions, as well as a variety of networking opportunities. We hope that you will be able to attend some of these events and connect with your fellow alumni.

**Gail Baumgartner**

This year, we are proud to announce that Gail Baumgartner will be our honoree. Gail has been an integral part of the Orthodontics Program for many years, and we are grateful for her dedication and support. Gail will be recognized at our annual alumni reception on September 17th.

**Dr. Vivian H.W. Chan**

Dr. Vivian H.W. Chan will be presented with a plaque in recognition of her contributions to the Orthodontics Program. She has been a dedicated member of our faculty for many years, and her work has been instrumental in shaping the orthodontics curriculum. We are honored to recognize her achievements and contributions.

**Dr. David C. Freeman**

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A Note from the Chair

Department and Orthodontics Program Update – Sunil Kapila, DDS, MS, PhD

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hat the beginning of a New Year is a great time to reflect on the achievements of the past and plan goals for the upcoming year. The Department and Orthodontics Program is excited to announce the release of our ORTHO-line newsletter published last fall, much was accomplished including faculty and student awards, guest lecturing, new faculty recruitment, and launching of new development activity in 2006.

In the past year, the Lytle E. Johnston, Endowed Collegiate Professorship was launched and has received interest from several of Lytle’s former students, colleagues, and friends. Also, the Collegiate Professorship in honor of Jim Harris is coming along fine but needs a final boost to be completed. It would be wonderful to bring these two Collegiate Professorships to fruition in 2007. Your support is needed to achieve these goals. If you have not already done so, please consider contributing to one of these two important funds in the coming year.

In 2006, we reviewed the contents and organization of the website, and are finalizing the web site. The final update will also include the process to the American Board of Orthodontics. We are looking forward with enthusiasm to our new class of students. The students and faculty are excited about these courses as possible or otherwise.

Department of Orthodontics and Pediatric Dentistry – February 2007

University of Michigan School of Dentistry

CONGRATULATIONS

Dr. Pinzon’s Pioneering Work for a Volunteer Program Acknowledged

Adapted from an article by Donald V. Calamia (dcalamia@twmi.rr.com)

Dr. Maria Pinzon’s work for a volunteer program called “For The Children” has been selected to receive the American Association of Orthodontics’ Thomas O. Thomas Award. The award recognizes one of the top orthodontic related master’s and doctoral researchers. Dr. Pinzon is a University of Michigan School of Dentistry associate professor in orthodontics and specializes in orthodontics for the craniofacial anomalous patient. Dr. Pinzon is also the chief of orthodontics for the University of Michigan’s Craniofacial Anomalous Patient Program.

In his studies, Dunn injected a biomolecule, osteoprotegerin, which prevents the activation and function of osteoclasts, the bone-resorbing cells. Dunn’s work was conducted under the mentorship of Kapila and Harris.

The award recognizes one of the top orthodontic related master’s and doctoral researchers. Dr. Pinzon is a University of Michigan School of Dentistry associate professor in orthodontics and specializes in orthodontics for the craniofacial anomalous patient. Dr. Pinzon is also the chief of orthodontics for the University of Michigan’s Craniofacial Anomalous Patient Program.

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