December 23, 2015

Dear Friends,

As the year draws to its close, I am happy to share with you some highlights of our academic life and achievements. One of the important changes that occurred in 2015 was the realignment of the Sections at CDM: the Divisions of Foundational Sciences, Prosthodontics, Periodontics, Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology, and the Programs in Advanced Education in General Dentistry and Oral Implantology are now all parts of our renamed and expanded Section of Oral, Diagnostic and Rehabilitation Sciences. This reorganized structure offers new, exciting opportunities to the Division of Periodontics for synergistic endeavors in education, patient care and research. While we continue to occupy an acclaimed spot in the global academic map of Periodontology, it is clear that the path to a successful future increasingly requires close collaborations across disciplines in medicine, public health, social sciences, and engineering, to name a few. I am confident that with the help of you all, we will continue to thrive and generate new knowledge, while at the same time provide excellent education to our students and the best possible care to our patients.

On a personal note, as many of you know, the last couple of months have been quite difficult, and I am deeply grateful for the support I received from you. With my health issues behind me, I am as confident and optimistic as ever that we will continue to score many more successes together.

My very best wishes to you and your families for the Holidays and for a Happy and Healthy 2016!

Sincerely yours,

Panos N. Papapanou, DDS, PhD
Director, Division of Periodontics
Chair, Section of Oral, Diagnostic and Rehabilitation Sciences
Faculty in our Division continue to have a strong presence in scholarly publications related to our discipline. The table below describes the cumulative citation record of faculty in the Division with publicly available Google Scholar profiles, reflected by their total citation record, their h-index (describing the number of publications by the particular author cited at least as many times), and their i-10 index (describing the number of publications cited at least ten times). The presented data are based on a Google Scholar search carried out on December 19th, 2015.

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**Peer-Reviewed Articles**


**Book Chapters**


**Editorials**

New Faces in the Division

Postdoctoral Students

The Postdoctoral Periodontics Class of 2018 started their three year program on July 1st. Seven dentists coming from different parts of the world have joined the CDM family. A couple of words about each one of our new residents:

Abdulrahman AlMubarak, BDS. Abdulrahman received his dental degree in 2010 from King Saud University in Saudi Arabia, after which he completed a one year mandatory clinical internship in a number of hospitals in Saudi Arabia. In 2012, he trained and worked to treat medically compromised patients at the tertiary care center of the King Fahd Medical City. He served as a teaching assistant at the College of Dentistry, King Saud University, where he also participated in research on bone regeneration and growth factors.

Khashayar Changi, DDS. Khashayar, or KC as everybody calls him, comes from Iran. He obtained his dental degree from the Semmelweis University in Budapest, Hungary in 2013 and completed after which he completed a one-year internship in the Department of Implant Dentistry and Prosthodontics at Loma Linda School of Dentistry.

Ramy Habib DDS, MPH, DPH. Ramy received his Bachelor’s Degree in Dental Surgery from the October 6 University School of Dental Medicine, Cairo Egypt in 2005, and completed a one-year a general practice internship for a full year at the university hospital. He obtained a Master’s Degree in Public Health (MPH) from Nova Southeastern University, Florida in 2011 and a certificate in Dental Public Health from Columbia University College of Dental Medicine in 2014.

Fateme (Flora) Momen-Heravi, DDS, MPH. Flora earned her DDS from Tehran University of Medical Sciences in 2009. Flora moved to the United States in 2011 and worked as a postdoctoral research associate first at the Harvard Medical School and then at the University of Massachusetts Medical School, conducting research on the mechanisms of cellular cross-talk through exosomes and non-coding RNAs, as well as RNA interference therapies. In 2015, Flora obtained a Master of Public Health degree from Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, focusing on epidemiology and biostatistics.

Bryan (Yun Suk) Noh, DMD. Bryan was born in South Korea, but grew up in several different countries, as his father is a diplomat. He graduated from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor in 2011 with a BS in Cell and Molecular Biology and an MSE in Biomedical Engineering. He then attended the Boston University Goldman School of Dental Medicine from where he received his DMD in 2015.
New Faces in the Division (cont.)

Noam Saltzberg, DDS. Noam was born in Philadelphia and grew up in Elizabeth, New Jersey. He received his BS degree from the University of Maryland, College Park and graduated from Columbia University College of Dental Medicine in 2015.

Jaffer A. Shariff DDS MPH DPH. Jaffer received his DDS from the K.L.E Institute of Dental Sciences, Bangalore, India in 2010, his Master’s in Public Health (MPH) in Epidemiology from Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine in 2012 and his certificate in Dental Public Health from Columbia University College of Dental Medicine in 2014.

Faculty and Staff

Moritz Kebschull DDS, former post-doctoral research scientist at the Papapanou laboratory and currently Associate Professor at the University of Bonn, Germany, was appointed Adjunct Associate Professor at the Division.

Three scientists have joined Dr. Yiping Han’s laboratory during the course of the year:

Taotao Liu, M.D. Ph.D., a gastroenterologist from Shanghai Zhongshan Hospital, China, joined the team in April as a Visiting Scholar to study the role of the human microbiome in colorectal cancer.

Jeewon So, B.S., a 2nd-year PhD student in the Nutritional and Metabolic Biology program, joined the Han laboratory in November to study the role of oral bacteria in preterm birth.

Jen-Ruey Tang, M.D., board certified in Pediatrics and in Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine, joined the team as an Associate Research Scientist in May to study the impact of oral bacteria on infant lung development.

Honors & Awards

Student Awards

As is customary, the Melvin Morris Awards were presented to the 3rd year residents who excelled in their studies at the June 2015 graduation party. This year, Dr. Elena Sanz-Miralles was the recipient of the Excellence in Periodontics Award, and Dr. Tzu-Shan Chiu received the Excellence in Research Award. Dr. Joseph Wang received the Murray Schwarz Scholarship, recognizing exceptional academic performance after completion of the first year of the residency in Periodontics, and Dr. Hosan Park received the newly established Kenneth L. Siegel Scholarship that recognizes exceptional performance after the second year of studies. Finally, Dr. Noam Salzberg was the recipient of the Dr. Ralph S. Kaslick and Jessica H. Kaslick scholarship, awarded annually to a graduate of CDM who has been accepted in our postdoctoral Periodontics program and is interested in a career in academic dentistry.
Honors & Awards (cont.)

Faculty Honors & Awards

Dr. Julie Connolly was awarded the Columbia University College of Dental Medicine Alumni President Award for Outstanding Service.

Dr. John Grbic was awarded the 2015 Melvin L. Moss DDS, PhD Senior Faculty Award for Excellence in Teaching.

Dr. Evie Lalla was named Senior Associate Dean for Faculty Development at CDM and was accepted to the Columbia University Provost Leadership Fellows 2015-2017 Program. She serves as a member of the Steering Committee for the 2016 CDM Accreditation and also chairs the newly-instituted CDM Global Initiatives Group.

At the 2015 General Session of the International Association for Dental Research meeting in Boston, Dr. Lalla assumed her role as Immediate Past President of the Periodontal Research Group of the IADR, after completing her tenure as President of the group.

Dr. Dennis Mitchell was appointed Vice Provost for Faculty Diversity and Inclusion at Columbia University. He also serves as Chair of the Minority Affairs Advisory Committee of the American Dental Education Association, and as a Member of the Committee on Admissions and Membership of the New York Academy of Medicine.

Dr. Panos N. Papapanou was awarded the 2015 William J. Gies Award for Clinical Research by the International Association for Dental Research. He was appointed Co-chair of the World Workshop on the Classification Periodontal and Peri-Implant Diseases and Conditions that is jointly organized by the American Academy of Periodontology and the European Federation of Periodontology and will take place in November 2017. Dr Papapanou was also appointed member of the Scientific Oversight Committee of the American Academy of Periodontology.

Dr. Dennis Tarnow was awarded the Distinguished Lecturer Award by the American Academy of Prosthodontists.

New Research Grants

Dr. Evie Lalla was awarded a 2-year R03 grant (total costs $ 320,000) from the the NIH/NIDCR titled “Secondary Analysis of EHR Data to Enhance Care of Dental Patients with Diabetes” with co-Investigators at CUMC, the Marshfield Clinic (Marshfield, WI), and Harvard University.

Dr. Dennis Mitchell is the Co-Principal Investigator of a 2-year grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (total costs $315,000) for the support of the Summer Medical and Dental Education Program, an academic enrichment program for undergraduate college students from underrepresented minority groups.

Dr. Panos N. Papapanou was awarded a 2-year R03 grant from the NIH/NIDCR (total costs $480,000) titled “Genomic Approaches to the Classification and Pathobiology of Periodontitis”. He also received a 1-year grant from Colgate-Palmolive (total costs $253,772) titled “Development and Validation of a Minimally Invasive Technique for the Study of Gingival Tissue Transcriptomes”, and a 2-year grant from Nobel-Biocare AB (total costs $274,786) titled “A Randomized Controlled Clinical Trial to Compare Two Loading Protocols Using a New Implant Design in Posterior Healed Sites”.

New Research Grants
Dr. Julie Connolly
- Lincoln Hospital Bronx, NY. “Dental Ethics”; August 2015.

Dr. Paul Fletcher

Dr. John Grbic

Dr. Yiping W. Han
- Cancer Regulatory Network Seminar Series Herbert Irving Comprehensive Cancer Center New York, NY. Oral Bacteria as Drivers for Colorectal Cancer; March 2015.
- Medical University of South Carolina, College of Dental Medicine Charleston, SC. “Fusobacterium nucleatum: A Commensal-turned Pathogen”; September 2015.
- Department of Pediatrics, Division of Neonatology New York, NY. “Intrauterine Bacterial Infection and Adverse Perinatal and Neonatal Outcomes”; September 2015.
- Department of Microbiology & Immunology Annual Retreat New York, NY. “Fusobacterium nucleatum and Adverse Pregnancy Outcomes”; September 2015.
- Preterm Birth International Collaborative (PREBIC) and Global Alliance to Prematurity and Stillbirth (GAPPS) Symposium Seattle, WA. “Impact of oral bacteria on pregnancy complications”; November 2015.
• *Division of Infectious Disease, SUNY Downstate and King’s County Hospital* Brooklyn, NY. “Impact of Oral Microbial Infection on Pregnancy Outcome”; December 2015.

**Dr. Evie Lalla**

• *International Association for Dental Research General Session*, Boston, MA. “RAGE Deletion Suppresses Atherogenesis in P. gingivalis-infected ApoE-null Mice”; March 2015.


**Dr. Dennis Mitchell**

• *ADEA 92nd Annual Session and Exhibition*, Boston, MA “The Two or More Race Designation: How Schools Are Navigating This New Paradigm”; March 2015.


**Dr. Panos N. Papapanou**

• Italian Society of Periodontology Annual Meeting, Rimini, Italy. “Periodontitis Pathophysiology, Diagnosis and Prognosis”; March 2015.

• *International Association for Dental Research General Session*, Boston, MA. “Oral Health Status among Elderly Participants in the WHICAP Study”. March 2015.


• *Bergen County Dental Society*, Washington Township, NJ. “Periodontal Infection Inflammation and General Health”. December 2015.

**Dr. Ulrike Schulze-Späte**

• *American Heart Association Annual Meeting*, New Orleans, LA. “Periodontitis and Bone Metabolism in Patients with Advanced Heart Failure and After Heart Transplantation”; November 2015.

• *ICOI 6th Annual Dental Implant Symposium*, Columbia University College of Dental Medicine New York, NY. “Maxillary Sinus Augmentation with Synthetic Biomaterials - do we have to rely on Donor Bone?”; December 2015.

**Dr. Janet Stoupel**

• *International Association for Dental Research General Session*, Boston, MA. “Flap vs. Flapless Immediate Implant Placement- A Randomized Controlled Trial”; March 2015.
Dr. Dennis Tarnow

- University of Illinois School of Dentistry Chicago, IL. “Controversies and innovations in implant dentistry”; January 2015.
- Princeton Study Club at Mercer College Macon, GA. “Esthetic Problem Solving”; February 2015.
- Miami Beach Study Group Miami Beach, FL. “Guided Tissue Regeneration”; February 2015.
- IDEA Interdisciplinary Course San Francisco, CA. July-August 2015.
- Spear Annual Summit Scottsdale, AZ. Management of Esthetic Failures; September 2015.
- American College of Prosthodontists Annual Meeting Orlando, FL. When to Save or Extract Teeth and Place Implants; October 2015.
Congratulations to the five students who graduated from our Post-Doctoral Program with a Master of Science degree in June 2015!

The following is an update on their career steps since graduation:

- **Dr. Jamie Chang** is back in Singapore where she works in a private practice.
- **Dr. Elena-Sanz Miralles** is still in New York and will be appointed in January as Instructor in Dental Medicine at our Division.
- **Dr. Tzu-Shan Chiu** has moved back to Taiwan and works both in private practice and at the University.
- **Dr. Matthew Hickin** works in a private practice in Boston.
- **Dr. Alexander Volchnokok** works in several private practices in the New York and Connecticut.
- **Dr. Shota Tsuji** is back in Tokyo where he works in a private practice.

We wish them all the best, and hope that they continue to keep in touch with our Division and the College.
The 26th Annual Benjamin Tenenbaum Memorial Lecture was held on May 29th. The keynote address titled “How Omics is Changing our Understanding of Periodontal Disease Pathogenesis” was given by Dr. Philip Stashenko, Chief Executive Officer, The Forsyth Institute, Cambridge, MA.

The 17th Annual International Bernard S. Moskow Memorial Lecture was given on December 4th by Dr. Wenyuan Shi, Professor and Chairman of Oral Biology, UCLA School of Dentistry and Professor of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics, UCLA School of Medicine. His lecture was titled “War and Peace within Oral Microbial Communities.”

On Oct 8th and 9th, the Northeast Post-graduate Implant Symposium took place at the University of Maryland. Hosan Park gave a case presentation titled "Flapless Technique for Anterior Dental Implant Placement: Advantages and Limitations." David Moisa gave a presentation titled "The Use of Collagen Matrix to Increase Peri-implant Tissue Thickness." Dr. Philip Kang, Dr. Dennis Tarnow, Albert Le, and Lea Planzos were there to represent Columbia Periodontics Program.
The 6th Annual ICOI/Columbia University Dental Implant Symposium led by Dr. Dennis Tarnow was held on December 11-12th. The symposium was titled: “Technology. Trends and Techniques in Implantology”. The two day event brought together an international panel of implant experts who shared their knowledge and expertise on implant dentistry.
Our divisional faculty continues to excel in extra-curricular activities... **Dr. Julie Connolly** ran in the NYC Marathon on November 1st. It was her 10th marathon!

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**Our Divisional Holiday Party** was held on December 16th. Faculty, students and staff all gathered to celebrate the Holiday Season.