First Annual Gorlin Conference “Outstanding Success”

The first Gorlin Conference was an “outstanding success” according to conference organizer Dr. Michael Rohrer, Director of the Division of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology at the University of Minnesota. This weekend conference was held in Minneapolis in early October. All oral and maxillofacial pathology residents in the United States and Canada were invited with all expenses paid by the conference through the Gorlin Endowment. The residents from one program said, “The two speakers were amazing . . . it was also a great environment in which to meet the residents from other programs. Thank you so much for a wonderful, unforgettable experience.” “We hope to accomplish several things with The Gorlin Conference which will occur in Minneapolis indefinitely,” said Rohrer. “The first is to strengthen the specialty by bringing all of the oral pathology residents together in an intense weekend every year of their training. By doing this, the interaction among oral pathologists over the years should definitely be strengthened. We even assign them roommates from other programs. By showcasing videos of famous lectures of Bob Gorlin’s, we want to preserve the institutional memory of this world-famous member of our specialty. Also, we want the residents to “rub shoulders” with outstanding oral pathologists and genetics experts with whom they normally wouldn’t interact personally.”

(continued on page 4)
As detailed in the last AAOMP newsletter we have pursued establishing an affiliation with the College of American Pathologists. We are now pleased to announce that the CAP Board of Governors has agreed to an affiliation with AAOMP, that the officers of the Academy felt relevant to our membership. The CAP Council on Scientific Affairs will welcome a liaison from AAOMP on their surgical pathology committee; Paul Auclair has agreed to represent us. This affiliation will give us visibility within the organizational structure of CAP and provide guidance on technical and regulatory issues that affect the surgical pathology laboratory. In addition CAP will welcome an AAOMP representative to attend the annual advocacy strategy meeting sponsored by CAP's Washington office. This annual meeting discusses advocacy priorities with other pathology constituents, and focuses on relationships with payers and other providers, and regulatory issues and initiatives. Dean White will represent AAOMP at the upcoming CAP annual advocacy strategy meeting. The AAOMP Officers and Executive Council would like to thank the Officers of CAP, Drs. Thomas Sodeman, Jared Schwartz, Gene Herbek, and Executive Vice - President Nikki Norris for supporting our efforts in establishing what we feel will be a mutually beneficial affiliation.

AAOMP was well represented at the ADA annual session with several of our membership giving continuing education courses that were well received and sold out. Thanks to Drs. Achterberg, Carpenter, Hellstein, Kalmar, Svirsky and Scott Benjamin for giving their time and being great educators and ambassadors. Dr. Summersgill attended an ADA SNODENT Editorial panel meeting in Chicago, this past October. This meeting was convened in response to the mandate from Health and Human Services for an electronic health record by 2015. By establishing SNODENT codes the possibility that dental information would be seamless with medical information (SNOMED) is the intended goal. The Laboratory service committee will go over these SNODENT concepts, so if the ADA moves forward with the project we will have input into the process.

On behalf of AAOMP and the Committee on Scientific Affairs, I would like to thank the following members for devoting their time and effort in getting several projects published: Jim Sciubba authored two papers in General Dentistry Jul/Aug, Sep/Oct 2007, Oral mucosal diseases in the office setting, Part I and Part II; Jan Handlers, Stan Kerpel, Don-John Summerlin, Chuck Tomich, Ray Melrose, authored an AAOMP position paper in General Dentistry Sep/Oct 2007, The use of biopsy in dental practice. Also Mark Lingen, John Kalmar, Ted Karrison and Paul Speight authored a review in Oral Oncology (in press 2008), Critical evaluation of diagnostic aids for the detection of oral cancer. Mark Lerman, Angela Chi, Brad Neville, Inez Velez, and Faizan Alawi coauthored articles under the Diagnostic Challenge title in 2007 JADA issues. This special feature represents an AAOMP and AAOM collaboration, as both organizations are responsible for case submissions and content. This feature presents interesting and informative case reports that hopefully will enhance the diagnostic acumen of the JADA readership. Last year’s publication by Sook Woo, John Hellstein and John Kalmar; Bisphosphonates and Osteonecrosis of the Jaws that appeared in Annals of Internal Medicine 2006, representing the first paper offered through the Committee of Scientific Affairs. Efforts such as these can only enhance visibility of the specialty with our dental and medical colleagues.

William Demsar has informed Council that he will need to step down as Chair of the Finance Committee. He will be deployed to military duty outside of the U.S. and would have difficulties in carrying on as Chair of the Committee. I know we all extend our wishes for a safe tour and I have informed him that AAOMP would put him back to work upon his return.

Hopefully by the time this newsletter is received we will have our new AAOMP website up and running. There were many involved in getting us this far and the ad hoc marketing committee is to be thanked for their efforts as well as Liz, and Janet and all those on the management and marketing team that made this new look possible. We recognize that there will be some tweaking, major and minor, before this best serves membership and the public that access the site. A special thank you to Sara Gordon for volunteering as Editor of the newsletter, as well as trying to keep to a schedule, and dealing with my late submissions.

Our organizations viability is related to its financial strength, which rests with membership dues, support of the educational programs at the annual meeting and the generosity of the membership in support of our endowment fund and funded awards. I encourage everyone to who has not paid their dues to do so, to attend the annual meeting and participate in the continuing education courses offered, with the benefit of renewing old friendships and establishing new ones.

John E. Fantasia
IAOP & AAOMP to Meet
June 22-26, 2008

On behalf of the IAOP and AAOMP, it is with enthusiasm that we invite you to San Francisco for this joint meeting. The scientific component of the meeting will highlight various symposia, lectures, and slide seminars which will meet our highest expectations of research and scholarship. It is the mission of both the IAOP and AAOMP to advance the science and practice of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology and this meeting will undoubtedly achieve this aim. We encourage as many of the attendees as possible, to present their research in either a poster or platform presentation format to further achieve the goals of this congress.

The meeting will be held at the Fairmont Hotel which is of significant historic interest and is world renowned for its splendor and hospitality. It is located on Nob Hill, in the heart of San Francisco, and a short cable car ride to all the cultural and historical offerings of this visitor friendly city. The meeting will also provide a number of social events to help foster friendships and potential scientific collaborations.

The last joint meeting was in Philadelphia in 1988 and the bonds of fellowship formed at that time still exist today, with new bonds surely to be developed with our veteran and younger members. It is therefore a privilege for the IAOP to return to the United States twenty years later; and the AAOMP is most appreciative of the opportunity to host our international colleagues.

We look forward to welcoming you to San Francisco.

Paul M. Speight  John E. Fantasia
President, IAOP  President, AAOMP

Congratulations to Our New Diplomates:

Drs. Patricia DeVilliers, Behnam Eslami, Lisa Franklin, Mohammed Islam, John Kacher, Aroonwan Lam-ubol, Mark Lerman, Elizabeth Philipone and Brian Shumway
10 Great Reasons to Join Us In San Francisco

Camaraderie! Meet oral pathologists from all over the world

Exercise! Cycle the Golden Gate Bridge and ride the Sausalito Ferry back

Fresh ocean breezes!
Take a harbor cruise from Fisherman’s Wharf

Ecotourism! The Muir Woods’ 1000 year old giant redwood trees will make your troubles seem puny

Geek chic! Rent a Segway for the day and tour the city.

Fabulous food! For great cheap Asian food, try House of Nanking (919 Kearny Street).

Great wine! Visit wine country just north of the city.

Shopping! From Chinatown to Fisherman’s Wharf, you could spend days snooping through shops.

Chocolate! Ghirardelli…need we say more?

Great meeting! We have some wonderful events lined up, so good that you may not want to drag yourself away to enjoy #1 to #9!

Abstract Submissions

will be live on January 8, 2008 at www.iusd.iupui.edu.
Deadline is February 1, 2008.

(continued from page 1)
This year 25 oral pathology residents from across North America arrived in Minneapolis on Friday, October 5 to stay at the luxurious Marquette Hotel on Nicollet Mall in the heart of downtown Minneapolis. That evening the residents attended a welcoming mixer with a welcome from Rohrer and the dean at Minnesota, Patrick Lloyd. They also viewed a video of Bob Gorlin explaining how he got into dentistry, oral pathology, and how he discovered the “Gorlin” syndrome. Saturday morning everyone traveled to the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry for a morning lecture by Gary Ellis entitled “Controversies in Salivary Gland Pathology.” Participants enjoyed a narrated guided tour of Minneapolis with box lunches over the extended lunch break. The extensive tour of Minneapolis included a walk across the Mississippi River over the Stone Arch Bridge, very near the I-35W bridge collapse site, a tour of the most famous chain of lakes within the city (12 lakes are within the city) including the famous pavilion and bandshell at Lake Harriet, and a walk over and around Minnehaha Falls, the inspiration for Henry Wadsworth Longfellow’s Song of Hiawatha.

Saturday afternoon the residents were treated to a lecture by Dr. Tim Wright, Chair of Pediatric Dentistry at the University of North Carolina, on the genetics of dental abnormalities. The Visiting Gorlin Professors, Dr. Gary Ellis and Dr. Tim Wright, were excited to participate and attended every function of the entire weekend so they could get to know the residents.

Bob Gorlin’s widow, Marilyn, his son Jed, and daughter-in-law, Jocelyn attended the Saturday night banquet. Jed spoke briefly about his father and told yet another “Gorlin story”. Marilyn Gorlin said a few words and then everyone enjoyed Bob’s lecture, “The Evil Eye.” Jed told Rohrer that seeing the videos Friday and Saturday nights brought his father back to life for him. Sunday morning was the case exchange a la ESTOP and WESTOP.

The residents presented excellent cases and departed with a CD containing theirs and 24 other great teaching cases. Plans are already underway for next year’s conference, planned for October 17-19 2008 in Minneapolis. Once again all oral pathology residents in the United States and Canada will be invited at no cost to themselves or their programs.

Anyone who would like to make a donation to the Gorlin Endowment should contact Mike Rohrer at the University of Minnesota. I should say thanks to the Past Presidents group for donating $1000 to the endowment and the AAOMP for donating $5000 to the endowment.
The 2007 ESTOP meeting was held in Bar Harbor, Maine - October 26-28. The Saturday morning lecture was given Dr. Herman Yee from NYU College of Medicine. The lecture covered practical aspects of immunohistochemistry staining and interpretation. The Sunday morning slide exchange included very useful teaching material. Those attending had some time to enjoy Acadia National Park, Maine lobster and the final game of the World Series with the Maine locals. We look forward to the 2008 meeting in Columbus. Photo submitted by Joan Phelan.

The 2007 WESTOP meeting was held in Whistler, British Columbia September 16-18, 2007. Thirty oral and maxillofacial pathologists from the United States, Canada and Mexico attended the meeting. The attendees were treated to an outstanding lecture on “UPDATE ON SURGICAL MANAGEMENT OF ORAL PATHOLOGY PROCESS” presented by Dr. Leon Assael. Dr. Assael is Professor and Chair, Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery at Oregon Health & Science University and Editor of the Journal of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery. In this photo, Jim and Nancy Kratochvil, Denice Stewart, Linda and Leon Assael enjoy the scenery atop Whistler Mountain. Photo submitted by Jim Kratochvil.
IN MEMORIAM

Harold Fullmer
By David McLain, MD, Brad Rodu, DDS


Dr. Fullmer was born in Gary, Indiana, July 9, 1918, and he earned B.S. (1942) and D.D.S. (1944) degrees from Indiana University. After serving in the U.S. Army Dental Corps in World War II, he completed an internship and residency in Oral Surgery at Charity Hospital, New Orleans. He was Instructor in Oral Surgery (1947-52) and taught General and Oral Pathology (1948-53) at Loyola University Dental School in New Orleans. In 1953 he became affiliated with the National Institute of Dental Research (NIH), where he remained until 1970. He became Dental Director of NIDR (1960), Chief of the Section on Histochemistry (1965) and Chief of the Experimental Pathology Branch (1968). In 1965, Dr. Fullmer (with Jerry Lazarus, Bill Gibson, and Cliff Link) was the first to demonstrate the presence of the enzyme collagenase in human tissues, and this discovery was published in Nature.

In 1970 he moved to the University of Alabama at Birmingham as Director of the Institute of Dental Research and he served as Associate Dean and Professor of Dentistry and of Pathology. In 1987 he was made Professor Emeritus, and in 1989 Dr. Fullmer delivered the twenty-sixth UAB Distinguished Faculty Lecture, thereby receiving one of the highest awards conferred by the institution.

Dr. Fullmer was an accomplished scholar, and his leadership was recognized by national and international scientific organizations. He was awarded a Fulbright Research Scholarship at the University of Adelaide in 1962. Dr. Fullmer was Chairman of the Section on Dentistry of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and was the only person ever to simultaneously serve as President of both the American Association for Dental Research and the International Association for Dental Research (1976-77). He was a Founder of the International Association of Oral Pathologists and served as its President from 1978 to 1981. He chaired the Dental Caries Program Advisory Committee of the US Department of Health, Education and Welfare (1976-79). He was founder and Editor of the Journal of Oral Pathology (now Journal of Oral Pathology & Medicine). He was awarded an Honorary Doctorate by the University of Athens in 1981, and he received the Isaac Schour Memorial Award from the IADR, the Distinguished Alumni Award of Indiana University School of Dentistry, and Indiana University’s Distinguished Alumni Service Award.

He was co-author of Histopathologic Technic and Practical Histochemistry (1976), and author of Histochemistry of Normal Oral Tissues (1976) and Histochemistry of Pathologic Oral Tissues (1986).

He was preceded in death by his wife, Marjorie. He is survived by his second wife, Shirley, and two daughters, Angela Fullmer O’Connell, Esq., an attorney with the Department of Justice in San Francisco, and Pamela Fullmer McLain, MD, a dermatologist in Birmingham.

Oral pathology colleagues from around the world will remember Dr. Fullmer for his accomplishments, for the leadership he provided to academic dentistry (and for the support he gave to those who emulated and admired him), and for what colleague Jerry Lazarus recently described as his “wonderful Eisenhower-like smile.”
Francis Howell

By Roy Eversole

Dr Francis Howell, past-President of the American Academy of Oral Pathology, died October 22, 2008 at his home in La Jolla, California. He was 84.

A native of Salt Lake City, Dr Howell moved to La Jolla when he was a child. He served in the infantry of the US Army in Germany and Czechoslovakia before attending Stanford University for his undergraduate degree in Biology. He earned his dental degree from the University of the Pacific and MS in pathology from the University of Oregon in the 1950s. For many years, his private practice in La Jolla was the only private oral pathology practice in California, according to Roy Eversole. Dr Howell joined the Scripps Clinic in the 1970s and conducted an annual symposium at Scripps for many years. In 1968, Dr Howell served as President of the American Academy of Oral Pathology (as AAOMP was then called). He also served as President of the American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology.

Dr Howell also had an abiding love of literature. According to the San Diego Union-Tribune, which ran a prominent article about Dr Howell when he died, he was a founding member of the Friends of the UCSD Libraries in 1960 and donated a significant collection of first edition literature to the library, as well as the documents of his father-in-law Capt Harry Pence, a prominent naval officer under President Theodore Roosevelt.

His wife Margaret, an animal activist with whom he shared a love of animals, survives Dr Howell. He is also survived by three daughters: Ruth Howell of La Jolla, Susan Mallory of Los Angeles, and Dr Amy Howell Oudemans of Hammonton NJ; a son, Army Lt Col John Pence Howell of Fort Monmouth NJ; and three granddaughters.

Cawson Award

The first AAOMP Cawson Award will be presented at the joint AAOMP/IAOP meeting in San Francisco June 2008. This award honors the contributions to the profession of Professor Roderick Cawson. The award will recognize a resident who exemplifies academic excellence, commitment to the specialty, and who has the potential for assuming a leadership role in oral and maxillofacial pathology and related oral health issues. To be eligible for this award, candidates must be a member of the academy and be a full time resident in a CODA accredited advanced education program in oral and maxillofacial pathology.

AAOMP Fellows may nominate a resident candidate by sending a letter of nomination and curriculum vitae of the candidate to aaomp@b-online.com for the AAOMP Cawson Award Selection. Deadline for receipt of applications is March 15, 2008.
Assistant Professor
Tufts University School of Dental Medicine seeks candidates for a full-time tenure-track or contract-track faculty position at the rank of Assistant Professor in the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology. Salary and academic rank will be commensurate with the candidate’s qualifications and experience. The position is available July 1, 2008. The department encompasses both the predoctoral and postgraduate curricula. The applicant will participate and demonstrate excellence in clinical and didactic teaching of predoctoral and postgraduate students, involvement in an active biopsy service, scholarly activities and research and public health/community outreach. Additionally, applicants will be expected to participate periodically in the school’s continuing education programs in oral and maxillofacial pathology. Requirements include a DDS/DMD degree and a certificate in oral and maxillofacial pathology from a CDA or ADA-accredited school and eligibility for licensure in Massachusetts. Board certification by the American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology is preferred or the candidate will be board-eligible and slated to sit for the Board examination in October 2008. An opportunity for faculty practice (clinical) exists. Review of applications will begin upon receipt and will continue until the position is filled. Applicants should send curriculum vitae, statement describing their scholarly and clinical accomplishments and interests, and names and addresses of at least three references to:

Michael A. Kahn, D.D.S.
Chairman, Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology
Tufts University School of Dentistry
1 Kneeland Street, Room DHS-646D
Boston, MA 02111

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