



From the Chairman continued

- Charles Canepa, Class of 1984, and his wife Linda are another pair of committed alumni who believe in CWRU. Charlie is the president-elect of the Orthodontic Alumni Association and has been contributing to this partnership for the last ten years.

The other members of the inaugural class are family gifts:

- The Gange Family Partnership for Excellence honors Bob Gange, Class of 1973; and his brother Paul Gange, founder and president of Reliance Orthodontics; Paul's wife, Sharon; son, Paul, Jr.; and daughter, Nicole Gange, Class of 2019. The Gange's look forward to Nicole's graduation and wedding in the fall.
- Jesse and Ron Carmen, class of 2012 and 1978, are a father and son team practicing in Columbus, Ohio. Both recall long hours of hard work on their theses, driving snowmobiles into snowdrifts and all-night writing sessions with Lysle.

Additional commitments for future partnerships were received from Meigan and Dennis Ward as well as Brent and Ashley Paulus.

Our goal is to establish partnerships for each of the residents in our program. There is still time to create your own partnership fund and we will continue to seek this level of support from our alumni. Call me at 216.368.4649 if you would like more information.

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## From the Residency Director J. Martin Palomo, DDS, MSD '97



*J. Martin Palomo, DDS,  
MSD '97*

Next year we are moving to a new building and we just can't wait! Our new clinic is going to have plenty of daylight, and we will have a total of 20 chairs, which is 4 for each "family" of 3 residents. We will also have separate rooms for screening/ consultations, and a tooth brushing area! Our new building will also have much higher visibility, and plenty of parking for our patients. The new clinic will also be highly efficient, and a whole set of new instruments will be purchased. There have been numerous meetings to get everything right, and we are excited for this move next year.

In the meantime, the American Board of Orthodontics (ABO) has changed their board certification requirements, and starting in 2019 the applicant will no longer take treated cases. Instead, they will have a Scenario-Based Oral Clinical Examination, with objective criteria and grading, using several evaluators. We have already started the transition to this new methodology with our last external evaluator, Dr. Leslie Will, who last December conducted a case presentation exam very similar to what probably the ABO will use. We will be incorporating this methodology in our curriculum this year, to help our residents become board certified.

Our new clinical team is already scheduling records for our incoming class of 2021, whom you can meet in this brochure. Last year was the first year where we went completely digital, scanning all forms and taking intraoral scans instead of alginate impressions and plaster. The technology is still evolving, but it is getting better every day, and since we know this is going to be part of our residents' clinical life, the sooner they master it the better.

Our research component continues to improve, with currently four research grants supporting residents' master theses, and many of them getting published.

We hope to see everybody at our annual session's alumni reception, so we can give a lot more details on what is going on, but to stay informed, or remember the old times, you can follow us on [www.Facebook.com/CaseOrtho](http://www.Facebook.com/CaseOrtho).

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# Welcome New Residents

Sherif Morcos EbS

The Craniofacial and Special Needs Program continues to do well, serving nearly 200 active patients and another 400 in various stages of observation. Patients are primarily from Northeast Ohio but include patients from surrounding states and a few from abroad. We continue to

work with all area teams, the Cleveland Clinic, MetroHealth, Akron Children's Hospital and our program sponsor, University Hospitals. Our Fellows gain a broad range of experiences and information by working with different teams and we are fortunate to have a collaborative relationship with all hospitals in NE Ohio. Dr. Anand Kumar took over as the Division Chief of Plastic Surgery at UH and is also the Head of our craniofacial team. Highly re

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# VOLUNTEER FACULTY PROFILES



*Dr. Alex Mellion*

## Alex Mellion

Dr. Alex Mellion was a graduate from the Class of 2011. From the very beginning of his journey he was highly engaged and active in volunteer work and student advocacy. Kari Cunningham, DMD stated that "Dr. Mellion practices servant leadership and is a great representation

of the Case Western Reserve University School of Dental Medicine." His passion and involvement stemmed from growing up in a dental family where he was heavily influenced by his father showcasing a passion for his career and enjoying involvement in organized dentistry.

His involvement in organized dentistry began as the dental school's ASDA chapter President and as a national ASDA trustee. At Case Western Reserve University, he was also active with the alumni board as the student representative and the Leadership Development Committee. All of these roles contributed to his passion for leadership positions within organized dentistry. He currently serves on committees of the Akron Dental Society and Ohio Dental Association and is the current chair of the ODA's subcouncil to the new dentist.

Dr. Mellion is driven by his professional affiliations. His Doctoral memberships include the Cleveland Society of Orthodontics, the Ohio Dental Political Action Committee and a board position on the Saint Louis University Orthodontic Education and Research Foundation. For Dr. Mellion there is a major importance behind organized dentistry and the future of the profession. He believes membership and involvement in organized dentistry allows dentists to control their future by maintaining their professional autonomy. He maintains his involvement to control how he wants to practice and recognizes that membership and involvement gives dentists a combined voice to impact their profession to better serve their patients.

He recently began his fourth year as a volunteer Assistant Clinical Professor in the Orthodontic department at Case Western Reserve which gives him an opportunity to be involved in academics and give back. His role as volunteer faculty gives him an opportunity to affect change and impact the

residents' learning experience. This position also keeps him current with new and different techniques in the profession.

To date, Dr. Mellion mentioned that his greatest accomplishment has been completing dental school and his orthodontic residency and being fortunate to be in a profession where he enjoys what he does every day. He feels fortunate to practice with his father, Joseph Mellion class of '78, and brother, Zachery Mellion class of '04, who have majorly influenced his career. He and his wife Emily, a 2015 graduate from the Pediatric Dental residency at Case Western Reserve University, are happy to have welcomed their first child this past fall and the excitement and rewarding challenge parenthood will bring.

## Zachary Mellion



*Dr. Zachary J. Mellion*

Dr. Zachary J. Mellion was a graduate from the DMD program in 2004. He chose dentistry because it offers a unique combination of patient care and business management. He enjoys both aspects very much and likes to use a variety of business principles to deliver a higher level of care and service to his patients. He mentioned "the longer I practice, the more I appreciate the relationships that I develop with my patients. It has been one of the most rewarding and unique aspects of dentistry and orthodontics."

His family has a history at CWRU. His father and uncle attended CWRU for dental school and his mother received a graduate degree from the nursing school. Dr. Mellion was fortunate to attend CWRU for both his undergraduate and dental education; younger brother, Alex, did the same. He enjoyed living and learning around University Circle and feels that it is a hidden gem in many ways.

He really enjoyed his time in dental school and could list a variety of fond memories, so here are just a few — late nights in the anatomy lab, study sessions with friends that ended with more laughter than studying, praying that the investment and casting would be a success and ASDA basketball tournaments.

