



# AAMP Connections

SUMMER 2015

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## Presidential Message

Dear Esteemed Colleagues:

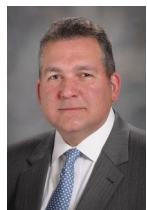
It is with great excitement that I report to you the activity of the past few months of the officers of the American Academy of Maxillofacial Prosthetics (AAMP). We have continued the tradition of our past President, Dr. Betsy Davis, in bi-monthly officers' teleconferences discussing real-time issues and resolutions for improving efficiency. This year I have included past Presidents, Dr. Robert Taft and Dr. Lawrence Brecht, as counsel to our Academy and to me. All of your officers are working very hard in promoting the Academy in various forums and overseeing sentinel initiatives as laid out at the Interim Board Meeting 2015 (April; Houston, Texas). I have been especially proud of all of the hard work of Dr. Thomas Salinas in running the day-to-day operations of AAMP with admirable leadership. Thank you, Thomas. The sentinel projects that we have been undertaking are as follows:



1. Continued partnership with the American College of Prosthodontists (ACP) and the Prosthodontic Forum: Dr. Betsy Davis is our Maxillofacial Prosthetics Division Director on the ACP Board and has been very active representing our Academy and discipline at the Executive level. A million thanks, Betsy, for your outstanding leadership.
2. Re-establishing the Maxillofacial Foundation leadership: With great sadness, we reported the passing of Dr. Robert Gillis in early 2015, who was very active in overseeing the Foundation. Dr. Sal Esposito has been outstanding in re-establishing the Foundation Board and serving as its Chairman. He has re-established the treasury of the Foundation and will report on future initiatives at the 2015 Annual Session business luncheon.
3. Revised the Maxillofacial Definitions in the recently revised *Glossary of Prosthodontics Terms (GPT-8)* by multiple members of the Academy.
4. Subspecialty recognition from the American Dental Association (ADA) through the ACP. The Academy officers prepared a position paper (Dr. Betsy Davis framed the paper) on subspecialty recognition and its importance to our discipline in academic, Federal and State, and private practices. Currently, the practice of maxillofacial prosthodontics is not recognized as a subspecialty. We are building a framework for cost of recognition and its return on investment. In addition to the continued exchange with ACP executive leadership, we will meet with the Directors of the Academy of Oral Medicine to discuss their recent certification process with the American Board of Dental Specialties.
5. The Private Practice Manual was revised in early 2015 under the direction of Drs. Betsy Davis, Dr. Craig van Dongen, and Officers of the AAMP.

...continued on page 8

## AAMP Executive Officers 2015-2016



**Dr. Mark S. Chambers**

**President**

MD Anderson Cancer Center  
Houston, TX



**Dr. Gerald T. Grant**

**President Elect**

University of Louisville  
Louisville, KY



**Dr. Peter J. Gerngross**

**Vice President**

Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center  
Houston, TX



**Dr. Jeffery C. Markt**

**Vice President Elect**

University of Nebraska Medical Center  
Omaha, NE



**Dr. Thomas J. Salinas**

**Executive Secretary/Treasurer**

Mayo Clinic  
Rochester, MN



**Dr. Alvin G. Wee**

**Recording Secretary**

VA Nebraska Western Iowa Health Care System  
Omaha, NE



**Dr. Betsy K. Davis**

**Immediate Past President**

Medical University of South Carolina  
Charleston, SC



## AAMP Board of Directors

**2015**

**Dr. Joseph M. Huryn**

New York, NY

**Dr. Arun B. Sharma**

San Francisco, CA

**2016**

**Dr. David J. Reisberg**

Chicago, IL

**Dr. Craig A. Van Dongen**

Providence, RI

**2017**

**Dr. William O. Wilson Jr.**

Bethesda, MD

**Dr. James A. Kelly**

Rochester, MN



From left to right:

Drs. James Kelly, David Reisberg,  
Joseph Huryn, Arun Sharma,  
Craig Van Dongen, and  
William Wilson Jr.

# AAMP Committee Chairs 2015-2016

By: Dr. Thomas Salinas

## Dr. Paul R. David

- Historical and Archives

## Dr. Betsy K. Davis

- Awards
- Nominating

## Dr. Peter J. Gerngross

- Corporate Liaison
- Program

## Dr. Villa L. Guillory

- Auditing

## Dr. Theresa M. Hofstede

- Education

## Dr. Joseph M. Huryn

- Research

## Dr. James A. Kelly

- Student Membership

## Dr. Harold Kolodney

- By-Laws
- Ethics & Medico-Legal

## Dr. Martin Osswald

- International Relations

## Dr. Thomas J. Salinas

- Fellowship
- Time and Place

## Dr. Arun B. Sharma

- Publications & Nomenclature

## Dr. Robert M. Taft

- Strategic Alliances

## Dr. Craig A. Van Dongen

- Insurance & Oral Health
- Memorial

## Dr. Steven A. Wagner

- Internet– Home Page

## Dr. William O. Wilson Jr.

- Educational Standards
- Federal Services

**Members interested in joining a particular committee should contact the Committee Chair.**

## CURRENT MEMBERSHIP

<b>Current Membership</b>	<b>476</b>
Fellows	110
Associate Fellows	69
Affiliate Fellows	33
Technician Auxiliary	5
Life Fellows	87
Students	168

## ELEVATION OF STATUS

### Associate Fellow:

Drs. Laleh Abdolazadeh, Lauren Bolding, Amanda Colbeck, Min Chung, Sarra E. Cushen, Cynthia Aita-Homes, Kirk Houston, Mark Hutten, Jay Jayanetti, Kirsten McCarville, Alexandra Polus, Jeffery Rodney, Evan Rosen, and Tanya Somohano

### Affiliate Fellow:

Dr. Dinesh Rokaya

### Life Fellow:

Dr. Alan Newton



## SPOTLIGHT ON AAMP PRESIDENT ELECT: DR. GERALD GRANT

*By: Dr. Candice Zemnick*



**Capt. Jerry Grant at his Naval Retirement Ceremony, with Angela his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Grant (parents), Kate (daughter), and Andrew (son).**

### **Please tell us a little about your personal life.**

A native of Louisville, KY, I did my undergraduate studies at Transylvania University and attended the University of Louisville School of Dentistry. Graduating in 1985, I began my career in the Navy and my journey through life with Angela Melhiser. After 30 years of service, I recently retired from the Navy and accepted a position at the University of Louisville School of Dentistry – seems I have come full circle. We have two great kids – Andrew who is a graphic artist, photographer, and computer-gaming artist, and Kate who is an opera singer. In our spare time, aside from travel, I have a shop where I “turn” writing pens, do some stained glass window design and fabrication and brew my own beer.

### **What led you to become a maxillofacial prosthodontist?**

Since I went to a liberal arts college, I had to take several art classes with my science classes. I discovered clay and became very interested in clay sculpture. After graduating from Dental School, I began my Navy career, where I had the opportunity to have access to a lot of different specialists, and to do a lot of advanced restorative care. I completed a residency in Prosthodontics through the Navy prosthodontics program and although I enjoyed pros, I was looking for more challenging work and something that would incorporate my interest in sculpture (more than carving teeth from wax). I got accepted to the Navy’s Maxillofacial Prosthetics Fellowship and became CAPT Robert Taft’s first fellow. Needless to say, it was an experience for both of us.

### **And since becoming a Maxillofacial Prosthodontist?**

The events of 9/11 had a profound impact on the nation and our military. I became a Chairman and Program Director for the Maxillofacial Prosthodontics Fellowship Officer program, Naval Postgraduate Dental School and Specialty Leader to the Surgeon General for Maxillofacial Prosthetics and Implant Dentistry in 2004. At that time, the majority of our patients were Wounded Warriors for head and neck reconstruction. Leveraging on Advanced Digital Technologies and working with the other branches of the service, we developed methods of virtual surgical techniques, custom surgical guides, fabrication of extra-oral prostheses/medical devices and use of additive manufacturing technologies to customize patient reconstructions. I have been working in research and development in this area since, expanding my involvement by establishing the 3D Medical Applications Center at the Walter Reed National Military Center in Bethesda, MD, which provides 3D modeling/manufacturing services worldwide. I’ve partnered with the Johns Hopkins Facial Transplant team in research and development and worked with the Navy on logistics in the use of additive manufacturing in the fleet.

### **Can you share with us what you envision the future to hold for the organization?**

I believe there are great changes coming, as more advanced technologies provide us the opportunity to provide care for our patients in a more non-invasive and timely manner for prosthetic fabrication. These technologies provide us the tools to be the team leaders in craniofacial reconstruction and help us to develop a team approach with our medical colleagues in the treatment planning and treatment of facial trauma and cancer patients. As an organization, the AAMP should lead the way in recognition of our contributions to dentistry and medicine, separate from “just a division of prosthodontics.” The AAMP should have direct input into the requirements of our training programs, stimulate research and development in reconstruction and oral cancer, and promote our members as the experts in the development and application of Maxillofacial Prosthetics for the care of a unique patient population to our medical colleagues who practice ENT, OMFS, Plastics, Neurosurgery, Radiology and other oncological services. We should seek to develop programs and opportunities that provide mentorship to our younger members with our fellows and life fellows. There is a unique potential to provide some great mentorship in learning, private practice, research, and institutional practice, due to the relative size of our organization. In addition, with the current economic world we live, we need to develop a strategy to become more self-sustaining as an organization.

I have been fortunate to have developed a great network of friends and colleagues through the AAMP who have always been there when I needed a little mentorship, support for a project, or to just have a beer with. I hope to be able to provide the same opportunities to all of our members.

## A Journey toward Maxillofacial Prosthodontics at UCSF

By: Dr. Arun Sharma

While in my second year of dental school in Bombay (now Mumbai) India, I was on a rotation in the Emergency Room. A young man with a very large facial tumor was sitting in the waiting room. The patient was transferred to the oral surgery service and was on the surgical schedule in two days. I was shocked that the surgeons resected his maxilla and orbit to remove the tumor but had no plan for his rehabilitation. I continued to see this patient over the next few weeks, and then he was discharged and sent home without any prosthetic or surgical reconstruction. It bothered me that nothing was being done to help improve his quality of life.



**The UCSF Craniofacial Team**

After finishing dental school and a mandatory year of general practice residency, I moved to London with the intention of becoming an oral and maxillofacial surgeon. After six months as a House Officer (resident), I was disenchanted with the specialty and saw an advertisement in the *British Dental Journal* for a Masters in Prosthetic Dentistry at Guy's Hospital. I applied and was accepted. That career decision changed my life and brought me to where I am today. While at Guy's, training under Bob Nairn and Harold Preiskel, I was very fortunate that Jim Kratochvil chose to spend his sabbatical year in England. I discussed with Jim my desire to learn about maxillofacial prosthetics. Jim persuaded me to apply to an American prosthodontic residency before considering maxillofacial prosthetics. With his support, I was accepted to a few programs and chose UCSF so that I could learn from Tom Curtis. After completing my prosthodontic residency, I was fortunate to be accepted by John Beumer at UCLA. I have been blessed to have had some amazing teachers and mentors, many of whom continue to mentor me even today. My co-residents were another significant component to my education; they challenged me to do my very best.

After UCLA, I moved back to San Francisco to be in private practice primarily. Ian Zlotlow then moved to New York, and I was recruited to UCSF to run the maxillofacial prosthetic service on a part time basis. In 1995 I moved my private practice to UCSF with an unusual appointment - 50% FTE with a two and one-half day faculty practice. The ability to practice more than one day a week has allowed me to develop a viable private practice with a significant component of maxillofacial prosthetics. Unlike other institutions, I only provide intra- and extra-oral prostheses. All pre-radiation and chemotherapy patients are managed in the oral medicine clinic that was established by the late Dr. Sol Silverman. UCSF has a very active center for craniofacial anomalies. I have been the consulting prosthodontist in this center since 1991, and we see a large number of young patients (mostly ectodermal dysplasia and cleft lip and palate) who need prosthodontic treatment. The prosthodontic faculty practice and the prosthodontic residency program share the same facility. This offers several advantages with staffing and laboratory space. The residents are exposed to a significant number of maxillofacial procedures, in both clinical and laboratory phases. I am proud to have stimulated an interest in the subspecialty; nine of UCSF's prosthodontic residents have pursued a maxillofacial prosthetic fellowship.

Our patients undergo significant procedures to treat congenital anomalies and malignant disease. It is very satisfying that we can play a small role to help improve their quality of life. It has been an honor and a privilege to be able to do what I love - maxillofacial prosthetics - in an institution where some of the giants of our profession have built a legacy.



# MD Anderson Cancer Center's Fellowship Program

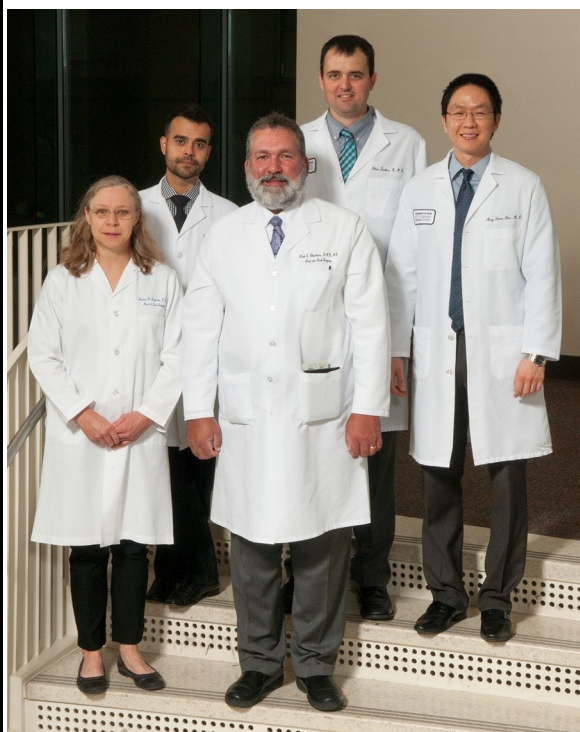
*By: Dr. Theresa Hofstede*

The University Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center (MDACC) was established in 1941 by the Texas state legislature. The institution's benefactor, Monroe Dunaway Anderson, was a businessman and philanthropist who established the charitable foundation that would fund the development and expansion of the hospital. From its humble beginnings at a residential estate in downtown Houston, MDACC has grown to be one of the largest and most respected cancer centers in the world. Now located within the Texas Medical Center district, MDACC is devoted to cancer patient care, education, research, and cancer prevention.

The Section of Oral Oncology and Maxillofacial Prosthodontics at MDACC has been a part of the hospital since it was established. Of the original 13 faculty, one was a stomatologist who specialized in oral care of patients with cancer. Currently, the section is an integral part of the Department of Head and Neck Surgery. The oral oncology faculty work very closely with colleagues in head and neck surgery, plastic surgery, radiation oncology, medical oncology, and speech pathology and audiology.

The formal training program in maxillofacial prosthodontics began in 1952 with the collaboration of the head and neck surgery service at MDACC and the Department of Prosthodontics at the University of Texas Dental Branch. In 1953, Dr. Joe B. Drane was appointed as the chairman of the Department of Dental Oncology at MDACC. Subsequently, Dr. Gordon King was the second chair of the department, who was later succeeded by Dr. Jack W. Martin. Dr. Mark S. Chambers is the current chief of the Section of Oral Oncology and Maxillofacial Prosthodontics.

The 12-month fellowship program provides advanced training in oral oncology and maxillofacial prosthodontics. Three fellows (who have completed a Commission on Dental Accreditation-accredited prosthodontics residency) are accepted each year into the program.



In addition, residents/fellows from the University of Texas School of Dentistry at Houston, the Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center, and the Naval Postgraduate Dental School Maxillofacial Prosthodontics complete rotations for specialty training.

The Oral Oncology and Maxillofacial Prosthodontics program at MDACC has trained hundreds of prosthodontists and dental specialists over the years. Our graduates are dispersed throughout the world, providing oral care and rehabilitation for those patients who have been diagnosed with cancer and developed oral morbidities.

**(Left to Right )**

**Front Row: Theresa M. Hofstede, DDS; Mark S. Chambers, DMD, MS**

**Back Row: Richard C. Cardoso, DDS, MS; J. Rhett Tucker, DMD; Alex Won, DDS**

**Not shown: Ali Khadivi, DDS**

# Highlights of the AAMP 61<sup>st</sup> Annual Session

By: Dr. Avinash Bidra

The AAMP held its 61st annual scientific session at the Westin New Orleans Canal Place in New Orleans, LA, November 1st through November 4th, 2014. The focus of this national session was “Multi-disciplinary Progress in Maxillofacial Rehabilitation of the Head and Neck Cancer Patient.”

Multiple awards were given during the course of the meeting. The Andrew J. Ackerman Award, the highest honor of the AAMP, was presented to **Dr. Johan Wolfaardt**, for having made significant contributions to the advancement of maxillofacial prosthetics.



**Left to Right :**  
Drs. Larry Brecht, Johan Wolfaardt and Bob Taft



Drs. Larry Brecht and Cynthia Aita-Holmes

The Joseph B. Barron Award for 2014 was presented to **Dr. Cynthia Aita-Holmes** for her demonstrated accomplishments in research, publication, and patient care. The first, second and third place Open Poster awardees were also presented, as detailed below. The poster award was once again kindly sponsored by the Editorial Council of the *Journal of Prosthetic Dentistry*. The 2014-2015 AAMP President, **Dr. Mark Chambers**, was inducted at this meeting. **Dr. Alvin Wee** was nominated and elected to serve as the Academy's Recording Secretary for the next three years. **Dr. William Wilson Jr.** and **Dr. James Kelly** were nominated and elected by the general membership to serve on the Board of Directors until 2017.

## AAMP 2014 Open Poster Awardees



**Left to Right:** Dr. Joseph Huryn, Dr. Kirstin McCarville, Dr. Wael Abdullah, and Dr. Betsy Davis.

**Not shown:** Dr. Cynthia Aita-Holmes

1<sup>st</sup> place

**Dr. Kirstin McCarville**

“Maxillofacial’s Role in Aiding Occupational Therapy: A Case Report”

2<sup>nd</sup> place

**Dr. Wael Abdullah**

“Implant Survival & Loading Rate in Surgically Designed & Simulated Jaw Reconstruction”

3<sup>rd</sup> place

**Dr. Cynthia Aita-Holmes**

“Digital Fabrication of Device for Clarinet Player with Bell’s Palsy”

## Presidential Message *continued from page 1...*

6. AAMP Annual Session 2015: Dr. Peter Gerngross, Program Director, has raised the bar yet once again in garnering an outstanding faculty for the scientific program and workshops in Orlando, FL. This meeting is sure to please all participants as it has an excellent didactic element and a fun social program with time to relax and enjoy the Florida weather. Congratulations, Peter.
7. Very active Ad-hoc Publications Committee under the co-direction of Drs. Arun Sharma and Thomas Salinas: multiple members/teams have been assigned topics regarding morbidities of head and neck cancer who have been charged by the Chairman to prepare manuscripts on the current treatment and preventive measures. Additionally, the eNewsletter (*AAMP Connections*), under the direction of Dr. Wee, has been published this year and is packed with current affairs in the discipline of maxillofacial prosthodontics and AAMP.
8. AAMP-ISMR relationship building. We are very eager to host once again Dr. Harry Reintsema, President of the International Society for Maxillofacial Rehabilitation, to discuss joint efforts between our organizations, i.e., Joint meeting in 2018?
9. Ad-hoc Life Fellows Committee (Strategic Planning): I charged Dr. Robert Taft, along with Drs. Esposito and Marunick, to establish enhancements for our current Life Fellows. As part of this charge, we have spent a substantial amount of time in determining better ways of communicating with our members, particularly those that have email bounce back to headquarters with no delivery to the member (e.g., receiving AAMP eBlast marked as spam or the member has chosen to unsubscribe from the email list). Additionally, we want to reach out to our Life Fellows in making this Academy an all-inclusive organization for all membership categories to enhance camaraderie and networking and invigorate attendance at annual sessions.
10. Ad-hoc AAMP Membership Benefits Committee: I charged Dr. Lawrence Brecht to establish a committee in determining the intangible and tangible benefits of being a member of the AAMP in 2015. This will better align us with more effective advertisement of our “subspecialty” and our beloved Academy.
11. Bylaws Committee: Dr. Harold Kolodney has been working very hard in comparing our Life Fellow status and qualifications to numerous smaller associations/organizations. He has been working with Dr. Salinas in comparing the AAMP with the ACP and other like organizations to determine the current state/trends of our membership make-up.
12. Memorial Committee: Charged Dr. Craig van Dongen with the initiative to update the Life Fellow roster regarding current addresses, email, and state of health.
13. State of the Treasury: As I have noted on several occasions when presenting the financials of the Academy, our current state is the best it has been in decades. Dr. Salinas has established two accounts and continued our Federal filing of 501(c) not-for-profit designation. Our Maxillofacial Foundation is a 501(c)(3) designation allowing for tax exempt contributions. We will present a business plan for future financial security at the Business Luncheon 2015.
14. In the coming months we will be surveying general membership in considering a name change of the Academy to better reflect our discipline and rehabilitation trends, for example, Academy of Maxillofacial Prosthetics or Academy of Maxillofacial Prosthodontics.

As my time as President of the AAMP comes to an end, I want to thank all of the Officers and Board of Directors for doing their jobs so admirably for this Academy. I am very excited for Dr. Gerald Grant to lead our Academy after the Annual Session 2015, with new ideas and contagious enthusiasm. I thank my friends, Dr. Robert Taft and Dr. Lawrence Brecht, for serving as counsel to our 2015 Board and hope they will continue in their new committee leadership roles. Additional thanks to Drs. Betsy Davis, Thomas Salinas, and Peter Gerngross for unwavering dedication and leadership in our Academy. Friends, we are in exciting times for maxillofacial prosthodontics. The infusion of youth, our next generation, into this Academy is wonderful and solidifies its bright future. Look forward to seeing you in Orlando.

Safe travels,

**Dr. Mark Chambers**



## 2013 Ackerman Award Recipient: Dr. Rhonda Jacob

*By: Dr. Steven Eckert (Chair, 2013 Awards Committee)*

"Dr. Andrew Ackerman was one of the original founding fathers of the AAMP. In 1961, he was Vice President of the organization, and according to all plans, he was soon to be President. Sadly, he passed away that year. Prior to that time, Ackerman's achievements had been many. He was a researcher, an educator and a clinician of very high regard. Many of us still use his classification of maxillary defects more than 50 years after these were first published. Soon after his passing, the Academy created its most prestigious award in his name. The Ackerman Award is not given every year. It is given when it is determined that one of our members is so deserving.



This year [2013] will be such a year that we will grant an Ackerman Award. The individual who receives this award also has a tremendous reputation as a researcher, an educator and a clinician. This year's awardee has over 100 publications. These include scientific articles, editorials, book chapters, editorships of textbooks and other forms of publication. It often seems that every third person at the AAMP meeting was a trainee under the tutelage of our awardee. Our awardee has presented at the AAMP more frequently than any other speaker that I am aware of over the last 25 years. Our awardee has served in all the offices of the Academy, including the Presidency. Beyond the contribution to the AAMP, our awardee has spoken innumerable times before professional societies on five different continents.

Clearly the contributions of our awardee justify the granting of this award. But our awardee is not simply wedded to the specialty; our awardee also has a very full and active life. Our awardee is an avid water skier, although she has never learned to swim. When asked about this, the answer usually comes back that waterskiing has nothing to do with swimming, as the idea is to stay upright on the skis rather than fall below the water's surface. Our awardee is an avid softball player and a golfer, recently receiving, in fact, the long drive award at a corporate golf outing. It is interesting to note that our awardee has modeled a putting stroke after that of Herman Munster, which sometimes seems a bit too stiff to sink the long putt. Our awardee has been an enthusiastic automobile restorer, having previously restored a triumph TR 250, twice, thereby learning the meaning of the saying that Lucas Electronics is the "Prince of Darkness."

Our awardee was the first member of her family to become a university graduate, a professional school graduate and to leave the home state. Unlike most of us who choose to take their first international trip to Canada or Mexico, our awardee made her first international trip to the Soviet Union where, in front of Soviet guards, joked and danced on Lenin Square.

Perhaps my favorite image comes from when our awardee was in college. A part-time job was secured to help make ends meet; this job was as a parking lot manager. It seems that every day a Corvette was parked in the same spot near a sign that said there was no parking after 6 p.m.. Well, the owner of the car was a surgical resident, and everyday that resident tried to move the car as close to 6 p.m. as possible. All the while, our awardee tried to get to the car as close to 6 p.m. as possible to generate a ticket for the parking violation. It was a daily battle of wills and effort, as both the surgical resident and our awardee would sometimes race to the spot to either avoid or issue a ticket. Indeed, our awardee is a bit competitive!

Getting back to our awardee's qualifications, our awardee has been president of other organizations in prosthodontics, namely the Academy of Prosthodontics, the American Board of Prosthodontics and is now the Co-President of the International College of Prosthodontists.

After a 30-year career at M.D. Anderson, she retired two years ago to go into private practice. By now you've probably figured out who this individual is. It is a huge honor for me to introduce my best friend in prosthodontics, Rhonda Jacob, as the Ackerman Awardee for 2013. Please join me in welcoming Dr. Jacob to receive this award."

## 2014 Ackerman Award Recipient: Dr. Johan Wolfaardt

By: Dr. Larry Brecht (Chair, 2014 Awards Committee)

“The next award to be presented is the Ackerman Award. For anyone who has been in this academy for some period of time, they will fully understand the gravitas and significance of the Ackerman Award. Dr. Andrew Ackerman was one of the original “Founding Fathers” of the AAMP. In 1961, he was Vice President of the Academy.

According to all plans, he was soon to be President. Sadly, he passed away that same year. Prior to that time, Ackerman’s achievements had been many. He was a researcher, an educator and a clinician of very high regard. As a fellow New Yorker, I am happy to share that he was also a Fellow of the Greater New York Academy of Prosthodontics. Many of us still use his classification



system for maxillary defects more than 50 years after it was first published. Soon after his passing, the Academy created its most prestigious award, given in his name. The Ackerman Award is not given every year. It is only given when it is determined that one of our members is so deserving.

The criteria for the Ackerman Award is for significant service, not necessarily just to the Academy, but to maxillofacial prosthetics as a whole. This year, the committee felt unanimously that this person had a truly global perspective for this Academy in being an ambassador for maxillofacial prosthetics, as well as a visionary in our discipline. I am just going to peruse his roughly 100 page CV and take out the 10 pages of fluff!

This individual has been in our ranks since 1984, and this year he is celebrating 30 years as a member of the AAMP. Truly, he is a visionary. Personally, he is an individual that I go to when I need my mental batteries recharged and to gain some insight into what might be coming around the next bend in maxillofacial prosthetics. Those of you who might have traveled to his unit realize that it is one of the superb programs in North America — one that has all of the expensive toys that Jerry Grant likes to play with! And as I said, it is one where I go for serendipitous ideas. My personal relationship with this individual goes back to 1998 at an ear reconstruction meeting that was as perfect a meeting as any I had ever attended. It provided a spark and seed for great learning, and it was a benchmark of what a *great meeting* should be in terms of intensity, multi-disciplinary collaboration and truly forward thinking. This person has set the standard for having meetings like that internationally ever since. He is always on the road serving as a great ambassador for what we do and trying to pull us all together to take the nebulous vision of what we do and give it some defined structure. He has gathered over, (in my calculation), 6.5 million dollars in grant funding. His publications are well over 100 in number, and he has headed up multiple organizations related to our field. I guess I am going to cut to the chase here and let you know that this year’s Ackerman Award recipient is Dr. John Wolfaardt from Edmonton, Alberta. “

*Acknowledgement: The Editorial Team would like to thank Dr. Suresh Nayar (Edmonton, Alberta) for sharing his recorded video of the ceremony, from which this narration was obtained.*

# In Memory of Robert E. Gillis, Jr.

By: Dr. Craig Van Dongen

Robert Edward Gillis, Jr. (Bob) was born in Clearfield, PA, in September 1944 to Rose Anne McGroarty and Robert Edward Gillis. Bob grew up in Cleveland, Ohio, where he developed a passion for visual art that served him well in his maxillofacial career.

Bob graduated from the College of the Holy Cross in 1966. Bob earned his DMD degree in 1970 from the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey. Bob and his wife then traveled to San Francisco, CA, for his public health residency. Bob completed a rotating internship in the U.S. Public Health Service and served as a staff officer for two additional years in Norfolk, Virginia. He completed a three year combined residency in Prosthodontics and Maxillofacial Prosthetics at the Mayo Graduate School of Medicine and received an MSD from the University of Minnesota. From 1976-1978, he was on the faculty at UC San Francisco, funded by a National Cancer Institute grant. From 1978-1983, Bob served as Director of Dentistry, achieving the rank of clinical associate professor at UC Davis, School of Medicine, Department of Otorhinolaryngology. In 1978, he and his family moved to Sacramento to start Bob's private practice. He and his wife, Mary Lou, served the Worldwide Marriage Encounter for fifteen years, where they made some lifelong friends. Bob was an active member in the Divine Savior Community starting in 1988.



(1944 to 2015)

Bob was a member of a number of prosthodontic organizations. He was a diplomat of the American Board of Prosthodontics. He was a member of the Sacramento District Dental Society, California Dental Association and American Dental Association. He was a Fellow of the American College of Dentists. He served on the board of directors for numerous organizations, including the Greater Sacramento Cancer Council. Bob served on the Editorial Council of the *Journal of Prosthetic Dentistry* for five years. He served on the council for the affairs of the American Board of Prosthodontics. He served on the board of directors of the Maxillofacial Foundation and the Sacramento District Dental Foundation. Bob served for seven years on two councils of the California Dental Association and was a past president of the Sacramento District Dental Society. Bob's passion was the service of his patients and ensuring every patient left with a smile; which lead to the founding of Smiles Big Kids.

Bob believed his greatest accomplishments were his 5 children and 8 grandchildren. Bob was often referred to as a "gentle giant", with a deep booming voice, gentle soul, and heartwarming smile. He will be fondly remembered by all who came into contact with him.



**THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY**  
COLLEGE OF DENTISTRY

Columbus, Ohio

## Maxillofacial Prosthodontic Dental Laboratory Technician

The James



**THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY**  
WEXNER MEDICAL CENTER

*The James Comprehensive Cancer Center and the College of Dentistry at The Ohio State University seek a trained individual to support the clinical activities of the Center's maxillofacial prosthodontists in the design and fabrication of intraoral and extraoral prostheses.*

The James ([cancer.osu.edu](http://cancer.osu.edu)) is a National Cancer Institute-designated Comprehensive Care Center. It strives to create a cancer free world by integrating scientific research with excellence in education and patient-centered care – a strategy that leads to better methods of cancer prevention, detection, and treatment.

The Ohio State University College of Dentistry ([dentistry.osu.edu](http://dentistry.osu.edu)) is the fourth largest public dental school in the nation and it is the only state supported dental school in Ohio. The college offers advanced training in all major ADA-recognized dental specialties, as well as residency

programs in dental anesthesiology and general practice. It has fully-equipped and staffed fixed and removal laboratories to support the needs of its student, and resident clinics.

Applicants must have completed a dental laboratory technician program, with a minimum of three (3) years of experience in the field of maxillofacial prosthodontics. Preference will be given to those who have also completed an anaplastology program.

For more information regarding this opportunity and to initiate the application process, applicants should go to the university's job opportunities website at <http://jobsatosu.com> and search Job Opening Number 409994. Evaluation of candidates will begin immediately and will continue until the position is filled. The highly competitive salary range is posted on the above website and is commensurate with qualifications and experience.



## KUDOS

**Dr. Betsy K. Davis**, Associate Professor and Director of Maxillofacial Prosthetic Clinic, Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, SC, was awarded the South Carolina Dental Association Meritorious Achievement Award and was also inducted into the American Head and Neck Society in April and the American College of Dentists in November of this year.

**Dr. Thomas D. Taylor**, Professor and Department Head of Reconstructive Science at the University of Connecticut School of Dental Medicine, will be awarded the 2015 American College of Prosthodontists Education Foundation Founders Society award.

**Dr. Alvin G. Wee**, Section Head of Maxillofacial Prosthodontics, Veterans Affairs Nebraska Western Iowa Healthcare, Omaha, NE, was selected as one of two Assistant Editors to the *Journal of Prosthetic Dentistry*.

## MEMBERSHIP HIGHLIGHTS

**Dr. Lawrence E. Brecht**, AAMP Past President, Associate Professor and Director of Craniofacial Prosthetics, Institute of Reconstructive Plastic Surgery, New York University, NY, is serving as the Immediate Past President of the Greater New York Academy of Prosthodontics.

**Dr. Betsy K. Davis**, Associate Professor and Director of Maxillofacial Prosthetic Clinic, Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, SC, is currently serving as Treasurer of the International Society of Maxillofacial Rehabilitation and Director of the Maxillofacial Prosthodontics / Board of Directors for the American College of Prosthodontics.

**Dr. Steven E. Eckert**, AAMP Past President and Professor Emeritus at the Mayo Clinic, is serving as Treasurer of the International College of Prosthodontists, Past President / Examiner of the American Board of Prosthodontics and Editor-in-Chief of *The International Journal of Oral and Maxillofacial Implants*.

**Dr. Salvatore J. Esposito**, AAMP Past President from Beachwood, OH, is currently serving as Executive Director of the American Prosthodontic Society.

**Dr. Peter J. Gerngross**, Assistant Dental Chief of Dental Service at the Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center, Houston, TX, and Director of the VA Dental Practice-Based Research Network, is serving on the Board of Councilors for the International Society of Maxillofacial Rehabilitation.

**Dr. Gerald T. Grant**, Acting Chair and Professor, Department of Oral Health and Rehabilitation at the University of Louisville is serving as Membership Director (Region VI – Federal) / Board of Directors for the American College of Prosthodontics and on the Board of Directors for the Advanced Digital Technology Foundation.

**Dr. Joseph M. Huryn**, Professor and Chief of Dental Service, Department of Surgery at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, is serving as President-Elect of the American Prosthodontic Society and serves on the Board of Councilors for the International Society of Maxillofacial Rehabilitation.

**Dr. Rhonda F. Jacob**, AAMP Past President and Professor Emeritus at MD Anderson Cancer Center, is currently serving as Co-President of the International College of Prosthodontics.

**Dr. Russell D. Nishimura**, Professor Emeritus at UCLA and currently in private practice in Westlake Village, CA, is serving as President of the Academy of Osseointegration.

**Dr. Caroline T. Nguyen**, Assistant Professor, Department of Oral Health Sciences at the University of British Columbia Faculty of Dentistry, is serving as Vice-President of the Association of Prosthodontists of Canada.

## CAREER

**Dr. Gerald T. Grant** retired from the Naval Postgraduate Dental School as Chief of Medical/Dental 3D Application for Walter Reed Army Medical Center. He has accepted a position as Acting Chair and Professor in the Department of Oral Health and Rehabilitation, University of Louisville, Louisville, KY.

**Dr. Don Leopoldo (Jay) Jayanetti**, has accepted the position as Assistant Clinical Professor and Residency Program Director (Maxillofacial Prosthetics) at UCLA School of Dentistry, Los Angeles, CA.

**Dr. Harold Kolodney**, Professor & Director of the Division of Oral Oncology at the University of Mississippi Medical Center Cancer Institute has accepted a position as Director of the Prosthodontic Residency Program at the Michael R. DeBakey VA Medical Center, Houston, TX.

**Dr. Arun B. Sharma**, Professor at the University of California in San Francisco, has been appointed as Director of Graduate Prosthodontics.

**Dr. (Colonel) Villa L. Guillory** was appointed Director of Clinical Prosthodontics Training for the US Air Force AEGD-2 Program at Wilford Hall Ambulatory Surgical Center, Lackland AFB / Joint Base, San Antonio, TX. She is also Full Professor of Prosthodontics at the Uniformed Services University Health Sciences.

**Dr. Harry Reintsema**, Professor and Director of the Center for Special Dental Care and Maxillofacial Prosthetics, Dept. of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, University of Groningen, The Netherlands, is currently serving as President of the International Society of Maxillofacial Rehabilitation.

**Dr. David J. Reisberg**, Professor of Surgery and Director Emeritus of The Craniofacial Center at the University of Illinois Hospital is Past President of the International Society for Maxillofacial Rehabilitation.

**Dr. Thomas J. Salinas**, Professor and Director of Graduate Prosthodontics, Mayo Clinic College of Medicine, is currently serving on The Editorial Council of the *Journal of Prosthetic Dentistry*.

**Dr. Arun B. Sharma**, Professor at the University of California in San Francisco, is serving as Vice President of the American Prosthodontic Society and Vice Chair of The Editorial Council of the *Journal of Prosthetic Dentistry*.

**Dr. (Captain) Robert M. Taft**, AAMP Past President and Chairman of the Prosthodontic Department at the Naval Postgraduate Dental School, is currently serving on the Board of Councilors for the International Society for Maxillofacial Rehabilitation. He is also serving as Vice President and Examiner for the American Board of Prosthodontics.

**Dr. Thomas D. Taylor**, Professor and Department Head of Reconstructive Science at the University of Connecticut School of Dental Medicine, is serving as President of the Greater New York Academy of Prosthodontics and as Executive Director, American Board of Prosthodontics for his 15th year.

**Dr. Alvin G. Wee**, Section Head of Maxillofacial Prosthodontics, VA Nebraska Western Iowa Healthcare, Omaha, NE, is currently serving as Honorary Treasurer of the International Academy of Oral Facial Rehabilitation, Membership Director (Region IV – Rockies/Plains) / Board of Directors for the American College of Prosthodontics, and on the Board of Councilors for the International Society for Maxillofacial Rehabilitation.

**Dr. Johan F. Wolfaardt**, Professor at the University of Alberta / Institute of Reconstructive Science in Medicine, Edmonton, Alberta, is currently serving as Immediate Past President of the International Society of Maxillofacial Rehabilitation and part of the Advisory Committee of the Advanced Digital Technology Foundation.

## Career Distribution of AAMP Members

- 24% Hospitals/Cancer Centers
- 36% Universities
- 32% Private practice
- 8% Military

## Leadership Positions Held by AAMP Membership

- 22 Department Heads
- 17 Program Directors
- 5 Am Board Examiners
- 2 Dental School Deans
- 4 Presidents of Organizations

By: Dr. Thomas Salinas

## CONGRATS DIPLOMATES!

We would like to congratulate the following AAMP members for successfully challenging the American Board of Prosthodontics:



- Dr. Parisa Shahi
- Dr. Ryan Richard Sheridan
- Dr. Richard C. Cardoso
- Dr. John A. Chamberlain III
- Dr. Jeffrey M. Rodney

***AAMP members hail from 42 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and 16 countries.***

## Maxillofacial Prosthetic Training Programs

*Directed by AAMP Fellows*

### Mayo Graduate School of Medicine

Program Director: Dr. Thomas J. Salinas  
Mayo Clinic, School of Medicine  
Department of Dental Specialties  
Rochester, Minnesota

### MD Anderson Cancer Center

Program Director: Dr. Theresa M. Hofstede  
Section of Oral Oncology and Maxillofacial Prosthodontics  
Department of Head and Neck Surgery  
Houston, Texas

### Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center

Program Chair: Dr. Joseph Randazzo  
Department of Surgery  
Dental Service  
New York, New York

### UCLA

Program Director: Dr. Jay Jayanetti  
Residency Program Maxillofacial Prosthetics  
UCLA Medical Center, School of Dentistry  
Los Angeles, California

### United States Air Force

Program Director: Dr. Jose Villalobos  
Wilford Hall Medical Center  
Lackland Air Force Base  
San Antonio, Texas

### United States Navy

Program Director: Dr. William O. Wilson Jr.  
Maxillofacial Prosthetics Department  
Naval Postgraduate Dental School  
Bethesda, Maryland

# Editorial Team and Contributors



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Dr. Steve Eckert



Dr. Theresa Hofstede



Dr. Suresh Nayar



Dr. Thomas Salinas



Dr. Arun Sharma



Dr. Craig Van Dongen



Dr. Henry Wu



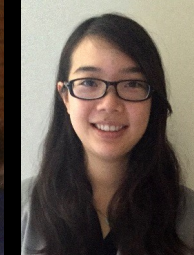
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## Editorial: “The True Value of the AAMP - Our Membership”



What makes the AAMP special and unique? The answer, of course, is the people who make up the AAMP - both its leaders and the membership. Unfortunately, in our complex world, such obvious answers can often lead us to take them for granted. Because the leadership is often highlighted and provides the face of the AAMP, we may more readily recognize the importance of the leaderships' roles to provide vision, set direction and long-term goals, address current priorities, and to recruit the next generation of leaders. It is the foundation of the membership, though, that provides true value to the AAMP. Similar to any institution, albeit a university, hospital, or clinic, the value of the institution lies not in the buildings, policies, or mission, but rather, it is the members (faculty, clinicians, staff) that bring true value...

...true wealth to the organization. Not just wealth in a financial sense, but wealth of knowledge, skill, experience, integrity, problem identification, solution generation, and of opportunity. The possibilities from such wealth can really energize the organization. When we look to the AAMP, the wealth of our membership is truly inspiring!

As we remind ourselves of the importance of our membership, we must remember the foundational roles that they provide for the AAMP. Our members attend our annual sessions and set the level of comradery and friendship, as well as provide networking opportunities. The membership staff and lead the committees that are the workhorse of the organization. It is also from these members that we pick the next generation of new leaders for the AAMP who will guide the organization into the future. With this value of membership in mind, let's re-energize our efforts to recruit quality members to the AAMP. Trained maxillofacial prosthodontists who are actively providing clinical care and/or who have clinical interest or research in this area should be actively encouraged to join the AAMP. An expanding membership will enrich not only our meetings, but also the core value of the AAMP. Furthermore, this active recruitment of membership will ensure the continuity of the AAMP for many years to come.

For those who have helped conceptualize, develop and produce this newsletter since its inception in 2007, I sincerely thank you. I hope that *AAMP Connections* has contributed to communicating with our membership, as well as provided an avenue for the AAMP to promote our organization. I sincerely hope that this publication will continue to communicate and disseminate the accomplishments and stories of our members.

All the best,

**Dr. Alvin Wee**