

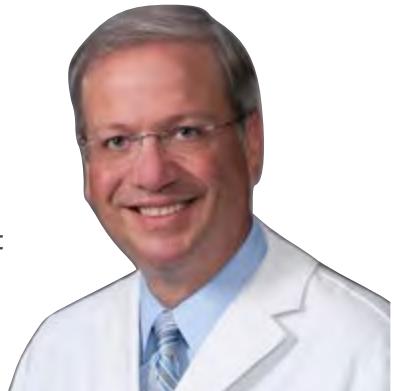
AAMP Connections



Dear AAMP Members,

It is my honor and privilege to serve as President of the American Academy of Maxillofacial Prosthetics.

Our Academy stands on a legacy of compassion, scientific rigor, and dedication to restoring the quality of life for patients facing some of the most complex functional and esthetic challenges in healthcare. Each year, I am reminded of the extraordinary skill, innovation, and humanity demonstrated by our members—clinicians, scientists, educators, and allied professionals who represent the very best of our specialty.



As we enter this year, our priorities remain clear:

- Advancing excellence in patient care through evidence-based practice and continued clinical innovation.
- Strengthening education and training, ensuring the next generation is equipped with the knowledge, creativity, and empathy that define our field.
- Promoting collaborative research, as multidisciplinary teamwork is essential to solving the challenges encountered in maxillofacial rehabilitation.
- Supporting our members, fostering mentorship, professional growth, and community.

The AAMP continues to expand its global reach, offering a platform where diverse perspectives and international expertise contribute to meaningful progress. Together, we uphold a responsibility not only to our patients but also to the future of our specialty. I am inspired daily by the work each of you does in your institutions, laboratories, clinics, and communities.

Thank you for your commitment to the Academy, to your colleagues, and—most importantly—to the patients whose lives you transform. I look forward to a year of collaboration, innovation, and shared purpose as we continue advancing the mission of the AAMP.

This year, with all your help, we can make our Academy prosper.

With gratitude and respect,

Joseph DiFazio, DMD, FACP, FAAMP
President American Academy of Maxillofacial Prosthetics

Highlights of 72nd AAMP Annual Meeting

"ONE WORLD, ONE MAXILLOFACIAL PROSTHETICS"

Exploring the Patient Perspectives

Dedicated to Dr. James E. Ryan, past President of the AAMP

The meeting was well attended. It was a three-day format, with 249 attendees. Including 20 outstanding meeting speakers, 2 industry workshops, and 3 industry presentations, for a total of 15 industry supporters, including the Maxillofacial Foundation.



AAMP Member: 107

AAMP Military Member: 9

Invited Speakers: 7

AAMP Student/Resident

Members: 57

Non-Member: 14

Non-Member Student: 6

Non-Member Military: 0

Allied Technician: 5

ACP Member: 8

Allied organization: 7

Exhibit Representative: 21

Accompanying Guests: 8

Exhibit Representative: 21

Accompanying Guests: 8

WORLD REPRESENTATIONS:



Executive Officers of the AAMP 2024-2025



From Left to Right: Drs. James Kelly (Executive Secretary, Treasurer), Ruth Aponte Wesson (Vice President Elect), William "J.R." Wilson (President, 2024-2025), Sujey Morgan (Recording Secretary), Joseph DiFazio (President Elect), Suresh Nayar (Vice President).

Board of Directors 2024-2025



From left to right: Drs. Edgar Davila, Amanda Colebeck, Michael Kase Akanksha Srivastava, Joy Wang and Laleh Abdolazadeh.

AAMP Committees

2025-2026

Auditing Committee	Joshua Vess
Awards Committee	JR Wilson
By-Laws Committee	Sarah Lee
Corporate Liaison Committee	Richard Cardoso
e-Communications Committee	Ruth Aponte-Wesson
Educational Standards Committee	Amanda Colebeck
Ethics and Medico-Legal Committee	Michael Kase
Federal Services Committee	Laleh Abdolazadeh
Fellowship Committee	Liv Muller
Historical and Archives Committee	Steve Wagner
Insurance and Oral Health Committee	Arthur Bibgsby
International Relations Committee	Sudarat Kiat-Amnuay
Investment Committee	Mark Chambers
Public and Professional Relations Committee	Candice Zemnick
Memorial Committee	Candice Zemnick
Nominating Committee	JR Wilson
Program Committee	Ruth Aponte Wesson
Research Committee	Tanya Somohano-Marquez
Strategic Alliances Committee	Suresh Nayar
Student Membership Committee	Liv Muller
Subspecialty Recognition Committee (Ad Hoc)	Amanda Colebeck
Time and Place Committee	James Kelly
Silent Auction Committee	Eszter Somogyi-Ganss
Strategic planning Committee	Suresh Nayar
Social Media	Harrison Spatz
Virtual Webinar committee	Edgar Davila
Website	Eszter Somogyi-Ganss

Academy Member Breakdown

Current Membership	490
Fellows	90
Associate Fellows	96
Affiliates Fellows	32
Technician Auxiliary	4
Active Life Fellow	4
Life Affiliate Fellow	2
Retired Life Fellow	78
Retired	3
Students	181

Members Elevation of Status

Affiliate Fellows

Alexandra Davila
Kiran Jagtiani
Bhavita Wadhwa
Jennifer Emerson
Niki Ghaem-Maghami

Fellow

Michael Andersen
Steven Handel
Joe Kim
Byung Joo Lee
Theodore Tso

Sohyun Stephanie Park
Nupur Patel
Joseph Randazzo
Michelle Ruse
Harrison Spatz

Associate Fellow

Himanshi Aggarwal
Samuel Andrews
Nguyet Đoàn
Kristen Eguren
Marwan Fattouhi
Stephany Ferreira
Adam Goodrick
Vincent Lee
Abdulaziz Mandani
Sergio Ortegon
Gaurav Singla
Cynthia Udeh
Aaron Barto
Zahida Iqbal



Allied Health Tech Auxiliary

David Morrison

Active Life Fellow

Russel Nishimura

A few of the new fellows of the Academy with Dr. "JR". Wilson president 2024-25.

Memorandum of Understanding between the three more Societies and AAMP



A memorandum of understanding was agreed upon and signed between the (Academy of Australian and New Zealand Prosthodontists, Dutch Prosthodontic Society and the International Academy for Oral and Facial Rehabilitation).

The MOU promotes cooperation between the two organizations and builds strategic alliances and scientific collaboration. It also allows members of each organization to attend the annual conference of the other organization as members. Thus far we had a total of six MOU's across the world. This initiative started in 2022 with the British Society.



From left to right: Photos of the friendly signing of an MOU between the representatives of the Academy of Australian and New Zealand Prosthodontists (Dr. Christine Wallace) and the Dutch Prosthodontic Society (Dr. Ralph Van Brakel), with Drs. Nayar as the liaison and Dr. "JR" Wilson (President of the AAMP 2024-25).



From left to right: Drs. Wee representing The International Academy for Oral and Facial Rehabilitation signing an MOU with Dr. Nayar as the liaison and Dr. "JR" Wilson (President of the AAMP 2024-25).

Poster Competition Winners



The Editorial Council of the
Journal of Prosthetic Dentistry

Poster awards for the meeting
were generously sponsored
by the ECJPD.

Research Category

1st Place:

Biomechanical Evaluation of Implant-Supported Prostheses in Fibula-Based Immediate Jaw Reconstruction: Jaw-In-A-Day, Using Finite Element Analysis (FEA)
Mesmar, Dina, BDS.
University of Pennsylvania

2nd

Evaluation of the Clinical Performance of Customized 3-Dimensional Printed Oral Positioning Devices in Edentulous Head and Neck Cancer Patients: A Retrospective Study.
Jude Itani, BDS.
'Division of Maxillofacial Prosthetics and Dental Oncology, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MH; * Division of Radiation Oncology, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MH

Case/Technique Category

1st Place:

Fifteen Years of Rehabilitation Following Bilateral Maxillectomy and Chemoradiation: From Zygomatic Implants to Midfacial Prosthesis
Nadezhda Zakhariya DMD,
UCLA Maxillofacial Prosthetics

2nd Place:

Full-Arch Rehabilitation with Custom IPS Implants in a Severely Atrophic Edentulous Patient: A Digital Immediate-Load Approach
Iris Vaid, BDS.
Advanced Education Program in Prosthodontics, University of Illinois Chicago COD, USA
Department of Oral and Maxillo-Facial Surgery, University of Illinois Chicago



We had a total of 26 case reports and 11 Research Poster session winners with Drs. "JR". Wilson and Tanya Somohano-Marquez Chair of the research committee.

Congratulations to the New Diplomates of the American Board of Prosthodontics



ABP Board Representatives from the AAMP: Drs. Gerald Grant, Thomas Salinas, Arun Sharma, and Robert Taft.

Fall 2023

Rafiullah Bashiri
Sohil Kazim
Jasmine Silas
Yu Chun Lin

Winter 2024

Alex Sarpong
Chen Chen

Fall 2024

Rishabh Acharya
Po-Hsu Chen
Timothy Daudelin
Stephany Ferreira
Pandora Lee

Spring 2025

Zeina Al-Salihi
Renz Antonio
Cynthia Udeh
Hesham Alouthah



Maxillofacial Prosthetic Foundation Award 2025

"This award is to recognize Maxillofacial Prosthetic Fellows who exemplify personal qualities and academic competence that portend major leadership and a potential to be major contributors to the specialty of maxillofacial prosthetics and the Academy". Dr. Nguyêt Đoàn was awarded the Maxillofacial Foundation Award. It was presented by Dr. Lawrence Brecht, president of the Maxillofacial Foundation.



Photo from left to right: Drs. Alvin Wee, Jay Jayanetti, awardee Nguyêt Đoàn, recent graduate of UCLA, and Lawrence Brecht president of the Maxillofacial Foundation.



Photo from left to right: Dr. Betsy Davis representing the Maxillofacial Foundation and awardee Nguyêt Đoàn at the presidential banquet.

Oral Presentation Competition

Dr. Nayar introduced the competition. This competition was one of its kind. This category was judged by its complexity and innovation, approach & methodology, knowledge and understanding, clarity and structure, discussion and reflection.

First prize - \$2000 and a certificate. Second prize - \$1000 and a certificate. The four finalist candidates will receive a reduction in their conference attendance fee of \$125 each.

With gratitude to our judges

Drs. Thomas Salinas, David Reisberg, Philippe Nuytens

Congratulations to the recipients of the 1st and 2nd prize

1st Prize.

Dr. Byung Min Nahm

Oral presentation Titled: Maxillofacial Reconstruction via Osteocutaneous Fibular Free Flap and Immediate Dental Implant Placement: The Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center Experience.

2nd Prize

Dr. Shiwangi Dhiman

Oral presentation Titled: Flap-related Outcomes after Intra-Operative Dental Implant Placement in Free Fibula Flap: A Comparative Outcome Analysis.



Presidents Award

The Presidential Award of Excellence was established to recognize an individual who is not a member of the Academy but who has exhibited strong support of its mission and has made a significant contribution to the discipline of Maxillofacial Prosthetics. It was presented at our annual session in New Orleans in 2025.

The recipient of this award was bestowed upon **Mr. Michael Mathews**. He has been a strong supporter of the Academy. His generosity and kind heart have touched so many lives. He has enriched our organization in so many different ways. We are tremendously grateful for his selfless contributions throughout the years.



From left to right: Mr. Michael Mathews and Dr. Betsy Davis.



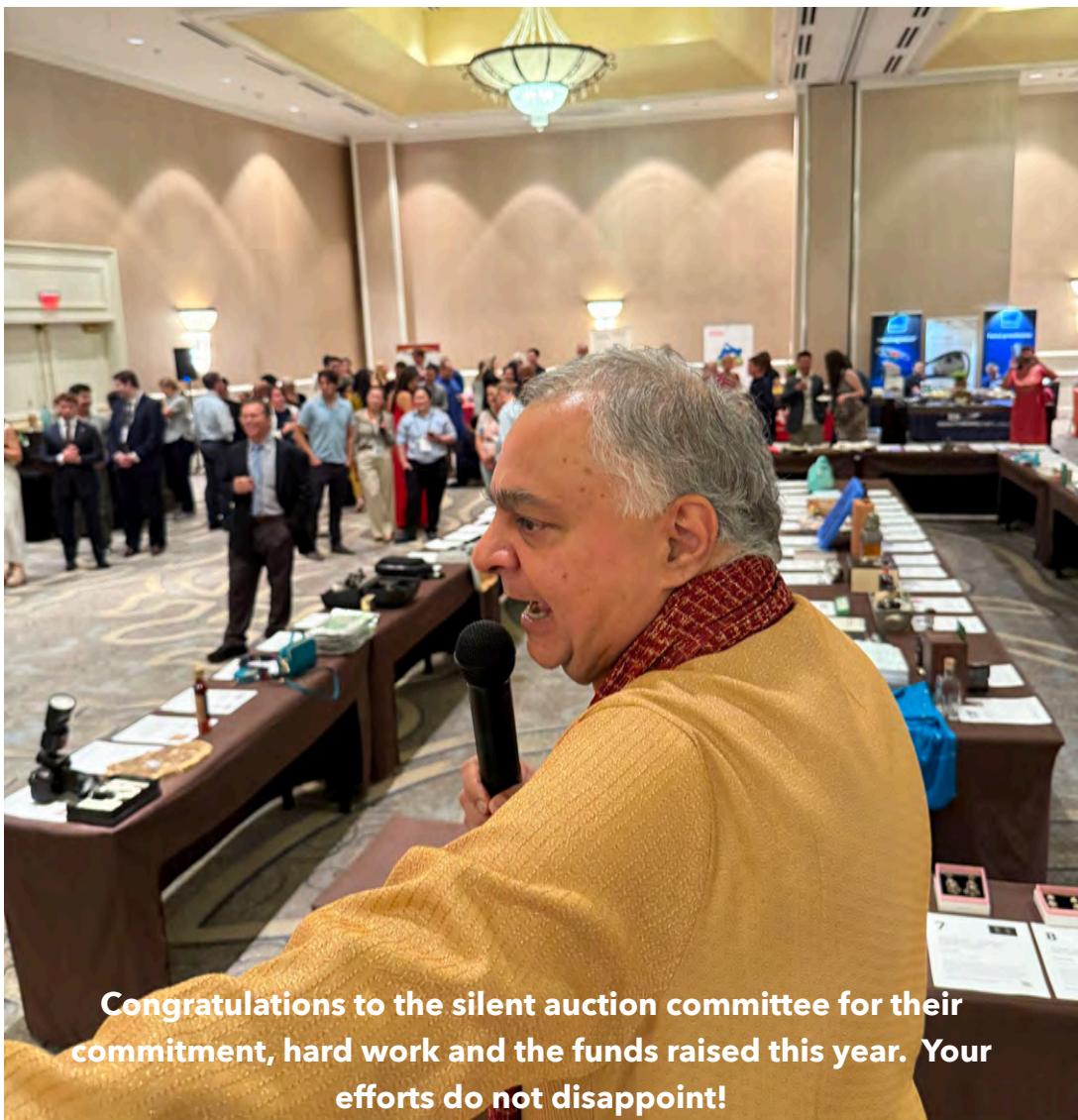
Silent Auction Donors

Dr. Adegbenga Otun
 Dr. Akanksha Srivastava
 Dr. Alvin G. Wee
 Dr. Amanda Colebeck
 Mr. Amol Shah
 Dr. Arun Sharma
 Dr. Avinash Bidra
 Dr. Azadeh Afshari
 Dr. Betsy Davis
 Dr. Christine Wallace
 Dr. Cynthia Udeh
 Dr. David Reisberg
 Ms. Erin Stevens

Dr. Eszter Somogyi-Ganss
 Dr. Gerald Grant
 Dr. Gurkaran Preet Singh
 Dr. Harrison Spatz
 Dr. James Kelly
 Dr. Jeff Rubenstein
 Dr. John Dominici
 Dr. Joseph and Rose DiFazio
 Dr. Joy Wang
 Dr. Kenneth L. Kronstadt
 Dr. Kristen Eguren
 Dr. and Mrs. Mark Chambers
 Ms. Pattii Montgomery

Dr. Peter Gerngross
 Dr. Ruth Aponte-Wesson
 Dr. Sarah Lee & Fotis Grigoris
 Dr. Theresa M. Hofstede
 Dr. Tom Salinas
 Dr. William (JR) Wilson
 Ivoclar
 CranoRehab
 Montegrappa
 ReLeaf
 Southern Implants
 Swissotel Chicago

Thank you for your generous donations



Executive Officers and Board of Directors

2025-2026

Dr. Joseph DiFazio, AAMP President, was inducted at this meeting, as well as executive officers from left to right: Sujey Morgan (Recording Secretary), James Kelly (Executive Secretary Treasurer), Mark Hutton (Vice President Elect), Ruth Aponte-Wesson (Vice President), Suresh Nayar (President Elect), Joseph DiFazio (President).

This evening was special as it fell on Diwali Day, the festival of light. The award committee was very active this year.



AAMP2025
THE ROOSEVELT NEW ORLEANS
OCTOBER 18-21, 2025



The BOD is comprised of Drs. Eszter Ganz, Akanksha Srivastava, Edgar Davila, Joy Wang, Amanda Colebeck and Michael Kase.

Ackerman Lifetime Achievement Award

The award was introduced by Dr. Alvin Wee immediate past president and chair of the nominating committee. The nominee was presented by Dr. Peter Gerngross. *"This award is bestowed upon a member of the Academy who the Board of Directors considered to have made significant contributions to the advancement of this special area of practice".*



This year the recipient was **Dr. David Reisberg**, known for his ingenious and charismatic personality that unites members. He leads by example and has given so much to our academy and our subspecialty of maxillofacial prosthetics. He is a dedicated visionary and continues to play an active role as Director Emeritus of The Craniofacial Center at The University of Illinois Hospital in Chicago. Dr. Reisberg is also a consultant at Shriners Hospitals for Children in Chicago and is the past president of the American Academy of Maxillofacial Prosthetics, The International Society for Maxillofacial Rehabilitation and The International Anaplastology Association.

Photo above: Past Presidents of the Academy Drs. Peter Gengross, David Reisberg, and Alvin Wee

Emerging Leader Award

The Emerging Leader Award was established to recognize a member of the AAMP whose contributions to the field of Maxillofacial Prosthodontics and the Academy are outstanding. The candidate shall have been an active member in the Academy for a minimum of seven years. The candidate has advanced and contributed to the field of MFP through research, education, patient care, MFP advocacy, and/or community outreach. Regular attendance at AAMP meetings. Participates in AAMP committees. This is the first time this award has been given. This year's awardee was presented by Dr. Alvin Wee, immediate past president, chair of the nominating committee. It was granted to an exemplary member of our Academy, **Dr. James "Jim" Kelly**.

Some of his notable accomplishments include:

- He directed two MFP fellowship programs and initiated a standalone MFP program at Mayo.
- In the academy, he has been actively involved in various committees for nearly 15 years, including student membership, fellowship, and other committees within the (AAMP).
- He accepted the call to serve as the Executive Secretary and Treasurer of the AAMP for two consecutive 3-year terms.
- At Creighton, he holds the position of Chair of Prosthodontics, aiming to mentor and inspire the MFP profession and serve as the Maschka Endowed Chair of Dental Ethics.
- He has also established a non-profit organization dedicated to providing oral health care and education both domestically and internationally.



From left to right: Dr. Alvin Wee, immediate past president, chair of the nominating committee presenting the award to Dr. James Kelly.



Presidents' Banquet



AAMP NEWSLETTER 2026





Jazz Museum and Creole Cookery



AI is here to assist US

AI Is Changing How Patients Find and Understand Maxillofacial Care

During my October presentation at the AAMP Annual Meeting, we explored how artificial intelligence is beginning to reshape the patient journey—not just inside the clinic, but long before a patient ever schedules a consultation.

Today, many patients are no longer starting their care journey by visiting practice websites or calling offices directly. Instead, they are increasingly turning to AI-powered assistants to ask questions like: *“What does a maxillofacial prosthodontist do?”*, *“What kind of specialist do I need?”*, or *“Is there someone near me who treats my condition?”* This shift represents a fundamental change in how patients discover care, moving from traditional search engines toward conversational, AI-driven guidance.

In this emerging model, AI can act as an early “care navigator”—helping patients understand their condition in plain language, setting expectations for what treatment may involve, and guiding them toward the appropriate specialist in their geographic area. Importantly, this does **not** replace clinical expertise or diagnosis. Instead, it helps patients arrive better informed, less anxious, and more prepared to engage in meaningful discussions with their care team.

As discussed in the lecture, this evolution aligns with a broader trend toward *predictive, participatory, and personalized* care—where patients are more actively involved and empowered throughout their journey. For maxillofacial prosthodontists, this presents both an **opportunity and a responsibility**: to understand how AI is shaping patient expectations, information access, and decision-making, and to help guide its use in a way that is ethical, accurate, and patient-centered.

AI is not just a clinical tool—it is quickly becoming part of how patients find us, understand us, and ultimately trust us.

-By Amol Shah





Save the Date



Emerging Trends in Maxillofacial Prosthetics
AAMP CHICAGO 2026
American Academy of Maxillofacial Prosthetics
November 7-10, 2026

swissôtel CHICAGO

www.maxillofacialprosthetics.org
www.aampconference.com
AAMP@RES-INC.COM

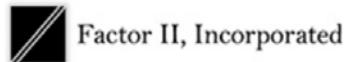
The vision of this meeting is to take us to the cutting edge of what's happening in the subspecialty. We have a stupendous three-day meeting planned for you!

Thankful to all of our sponsors

Industry Presentations



Corporate Workshops



Exhibitors



In Closing...

We would like to finish this newsletter thanking all of the members that helped us accomplish this winter edition. We had a well-attended and very successful three-day meeting in NOLA with the seamless leadership of our past Presidents, Dr. "JR" Wilson, program chair Dr. Nayar, RES, many volunteers from the different committees, candid photographers, and sponsors that made this event memorable. We are looking forward to upcoming continuing education opportunities this new year. Welcoming the new President of the Academy, Dr. Joseph DiFazio, wishing him a fruitful year. The Academy is a platform rich in opportunities. It does not matter in what category you may fall into, a student member or a life fellow, the enthusiasm and contribution can be endless and so rewarding. Some of the most valuable features of our group are the collegial environment, the never-ending pursuit of cutting-edge knowledge, mentorships, and achieving lifelong friendships. We hope you enjoyed the selected items in this winter newsletter.

Ruth Aponte-Wesson &
e-Communications Committee