

UW GRADUATE PERIODONTICS NEWSLETTER

Autumn Quarter 2025



American Academy of Periodontics Annual Meeting 2025 in Toronto, Canada



TOP NEWS

Dr. David Mathews: Master Clinician Award

Dr. Herbert Selipsky: Outstanding Periodontal Educator Award

**Dr. Alexis Brito '25 AAP Finalist
SASC Dinner and Speakers**

Chair, Dr. Frank & Laurie Roberts welcomed Faculty, Affiliate Faculty, Residents, and Staff to summer gathering.

Guest Lectures



Seattle to Host AAP 2026

Oct 29 - Nov 1, 2026



AAP 2025 - Award Winners

AAP Master Clinician Award given to Dr. David Paul Mathews '74



An innovator in interdisciplinary care, Dr. Mathews has advanced the teaching and management of complex cases requiring collaboration across periodontics, orthodontics, and other dental specialties. His landmark 2002 publication introduced the pediculated connective tissue graft to the world—a breakthrough technique that remains one of the most highly recommended procedures for addressing advanced defects in the esthetic zone. He proudly co-authored the acclaimed book titled *'Orthodontic and Surgical Management of Impacted Teeth'* with Dr. Vince Kokich Sr.—a cornerstone in dental literature and an indispensable resource for periodontists, orthodontists, and oral surgeons worldwide. This influential work continues to shape best practices and inspire excellence in interdisciplinary care.

Dr. Mathews served as an affiliate professor in Graduate Periodontics at the UW until his retirement in 2018, while maintaining a full-time practice in Tacoma until 2016.

AAP Outstanding Periodontal Educator Award given to Dr. Herbert Selipsky '70



Dr. Selipsky's journey at the University of Washington began after graduating from dental school in South Africa in 1961 and earning a postgraduate degree in Prosthodontics in 1965. Following several years in private practice, he joined the UW Periodontics program in 1970 and described the offer of a full-time faculty position after his residency as, "the honor of a lifetime." Over the next 25 years, he served as a full-time faculty member, program director, and vice chair of the department, followed by another 25 years part-time—an extraordinary 50-year legacy of teaching and mentorship. During his tenure, he helped establish the Selipsky Endowment Fund in Periodontics to support tuition for residents and continues to teach the osseous surgery course to incoming residents. A diplomate of the American Board of Periodontology and a prolific contributor to the literature, Dr. Selipsky's influence on the field and generations of specialists is immeasurable. As part of his award, the AAP Foundation in an unprecedented move contributed \$5,000 to the endowment fund.



Dr. Alexis Brito '25 AAP Finalist and Speaker of the Balint Orban Memorial Competition

Dr. Brito one of eight selected speakers, presented her research, "Characterizing the Effects of Periodontal Inflammation in Adjacent and Distant Tooth Sites in Patients with Stage III Periodontitis."

Perio fun facts: Viennese scientist Bálint Orbán (1899–1960) was an international pioneer in the area of oral pathology.



Dr. Yung-Ting (Lizzy) Hsu The Role of Inflammatory Responder Types in Gingivitis and Periodontitis

Dr. Hsu taught attendees to describe how inflammatory responder types contribute to variability in host responses during gingivitis and periodontitis. Also to differentiate high and low IRTs and discuss their roles in immune modulation, angiogenesis, and disease progression to inform future periodontal care strategies.

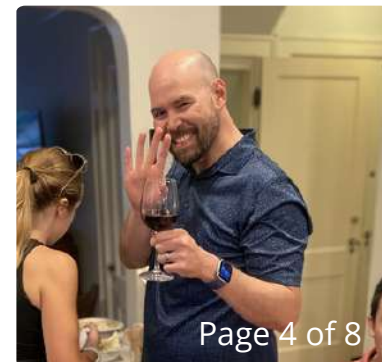


Schluger Ammons Study Club at AAP

left: Dr. Ralf Schuler '03 presented University of Washington, Certificate of Proficiency in Periodontics- 2025.
right: Dr. Jim Janakievski '04 presented Interdisciplinary Collaboration: Optimizing Treatment Outcomes for Complex Patients.



Chair, Dr. Frank and Laurie Roberts hosts Appreciation Barbecue for Faculty, Associate Faculty, Graduate Students and Staff.





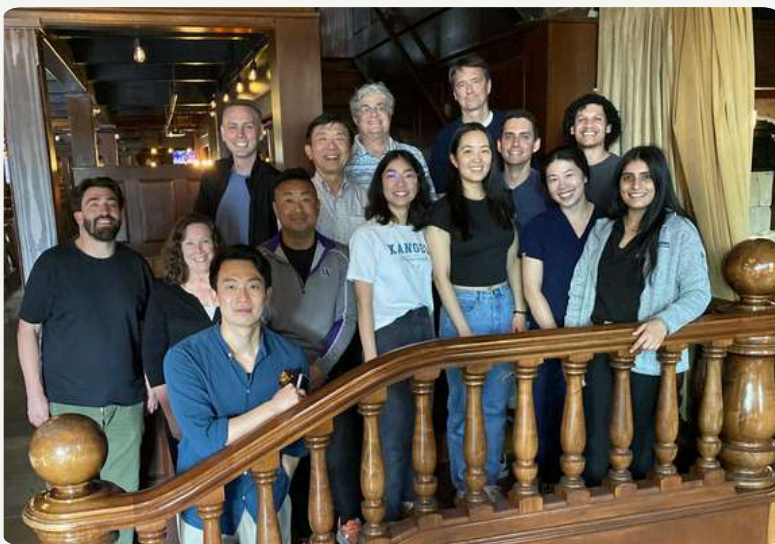
A huge THANK YOU to the Roberts! It was a great opportunity to reconnect with all!



Periodontics and Prosthodontics combined Literature Review



Dr. Van Ramos and Dr. Yung-Ting (Lizzy) Hsu led the review of six papers, lecturing on 'Morphologic and Dimensional Changes of Alveolar Ridge Following Extraction.' Dr's Ramos and Hsu present a combined review twice yearly.



Perio Team building with Bocce courts.



SOD HERO'S: Dental Maintenance and Repair team, Leng, Jacob, Sherry. Not pictured Jorge and Rich.

Happy Holidays and Thank you!

As we wrap up fall quarter, I just want to take a moment to thank each of you for your dedication and resilience in the field of Periodontics!

So far, UW Grad Perio has trained 385 clinicians, with 12 more currently enrolled and eager to join your ranks. That's something to celebrate! Our department has so much to be proud of—from faculty and affiliate faculty who uphold the highest standards of ethics, to graduates who share knowledge and serve patients in this community. And let's not forget the incredible team behind the scenes: our Administrator, Program and Clinic Managers, Hygienists, Dental Assistant, and Front Office staff who keep everything running and cheer on our residents every day. This letter is proof that UW Perio continues to be a program of great worth, just as it was when it began in 1958.

A special thank-you to those who send photos, share article ideas, and help with proofreading and editing—your contributions make this newsletter possible. Our department thrives because of your commitment to supporting students and each other. Wishing you a restful break and a bright start to the new year!



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Year-end note from Program Director

Dr. Ralf Schuler '03

I stepped into the role of Graduate Program Director in June, and since then, I've been focused on integrating digital implant dentistry more readily into the Graduate Periodontics Clinic. One of my main goals has been to make technology a bigger part of our workflow. That encompasses using computer-generated surgical guides for every implant procedure and converting DICOM files into 3D STL models to plan complex surgeries—procedures like split bone block (SBB) grafting, cortico-cancellous block placement, and/or sinus floor augmentation. It's all about improving precision and making these treatments as predictable and efficient as possible.



Year-end note from Department Vice Chair

Dr. Yung-Ting (Lizzy) Hsu



2025 has been a meaningful and rewarding year since I stepped into the role of Vice Chair of the Department of Periodontics. Together, we welcomed new leadership, strengthened our community, and continued to elevate UW Perio on national and international stages. A major highlight was completing the Graduate Program Director search and welcoming Dr. Ralf Schuler '03, our distinguished alumnus and long-term affiliate faculty, back to the department in July. His enthusiasm and leadership have already brought renewed energy to our residency program. Throughout the year, visiting speakers and alumni enriched our educational environment and highlighted the strength of our UW Perio community. At the AAP Annual Meeting in Toronto, our UW Perio family shone—from Dr. Alexis Brito '25 presenting in the Urban Research Competition to national honors awarded to Drs. Herb Selipsky '70 and Dave Mathew '74. I was grateful to share our department's work in the Innovative Periodontics Session. The meeting was made even more special by a heartwarming Schluger-Ammons Study Club (SASC) gathering at the start of the meeting, where alumni, residents, and faculty reconnected. Looking ahead, 2026 promises to be equally exciting. On April 10, we will host a full day continuing education course, our first in-person CE event since the pandemic, featuring updates in research, periodontics, and implant dentistry. With the AAP Annual Meeting taking place in Seattle next October, we are thrilled to welcome alumni home for two special SASC events: a UW School of Dentistry Event to reconnect with our clinics, faculty, and residents, and a Museum of Flight Gala Night celebrating camaraderie and the future of our specialty. Thank you to our residents, faculty, alumni, and friends for making this year vibrant and inspiring. I look forward to celebrating with you all in Seattle in 2026!

**If you would like to receive this newsletter via email, please reach out to
Kim Lang, at klang7@uw.edu.**

Holiday Party 2025



Holiday Party
Left: Drs. Daubert, Flood, Roberts, and Kip Wiebusch.
Right: Dr. McLean and Arizona flower pot keepsake.



from left: John Caindoy, Sumita Jain, Frank Roberts, Jeff Mclean, Euiyoung Chong, Deborah Lee, Megan Ching, Bobby Butler, Jordon McAdam, Demetrius Flood, Kirk Davidson, Alex Beltran, Ryan Beetham, Ralf Schuler, Lizzy Hsu, Kip Wiebusch and Erik Hendrickson.

Year End Giving

Every dollar matters because every future periodontist matters. Choosing to step away from dentistry for three years to train and specialize in periodontics is a significant commitment—financially and personally. At UW Grad Perio, our mission is to prepare the most talented clinicians to advance oral health and serve community.

Yet, the reality is that the cost and loss of income can prevent exceptional candidates from pursuing this path. Your support helps remove those barriers and ensures that the next generation of leaders in periodontics can thrive.

Give at <http://giving.uw.edu/selipsky>

