June is upon us again and we are celebrating the graduation of Matt Jacobsen, Jay Ramirez and Basel Sharaf. This has been a particularly wonderful year for the Department. Matt, Jay and Basel were exemplary Chief Residents; always on top of the patients and serving as terrific superiors and mentors for the other residents and students. Added to the mix was Carl Bouchard, the AO/Synthes/MGH Fellow. Carl and the Chief Residents had a special working relationship. It was a pleasure for me and the other faculty to see them working together, taking care of a very busy service with large numbers of trauma patients and other complex cases, learning and enjoying themselves so much. It was also gratifying to see Carl grow as a clinician and teacher. We will miss all four of these surgeons and we hope they stay in touch with the Department. Matt and Jay will be entering private practice in Rhode Island and Florida respectively. Basel will be entering a Plastic Surgery residency program at Albert Einstein and Montefiore Hospital (my daughter Jody who is on the faculty there will keep an eye on Basel for us). Carl will be returning to Quebec to take a faculty position in OMFS at the University of Laval. Finally, I want to acknowledge our Research Fellow, KG Hwang. He has completed the first year of a two year program working in the Skeletal Biology Research Center. KG has participated in projects related to tissue engineering, sialendoscopy outcomes and navigation.

July always brings with it the excitement of a new academic year. I want to thank Natalie Tung, Yedeh Ying, Shawn Marsh and Maher Jandali-Rifai, our 4 outgoing Interns, for a job well done. All of them performed to the highest standards. Their team work, enthusiasm and hard work contributed to the excitement and camaraderie on the Service. Natalie and Yedeh will be entering Harvard Medical School this year and returning to the MGH in 2011. Shawn will be starting his OMFS residency at Tufts and Maher at Columbia University.

Life goes on and as always I approach with great enthusiasm the opportunities presented by new interns and the change in junior and senior residents that occurs every July. We extend a warm welcome to Batya Goldwaser (HSDM), Mariusz Wrzosek (HSDM), and Ricardo Ortiz (University of Puerto Rico) our categorical interns and Olena Norris (UCLA) in the preliminary intern program. Congratulations to our 3 Junior Residents, Sal Afshar, Alex Katsnelson and Rizan Nashef who will be taking the helm as senior and chief residents.

This year we have had an unusual number of milestones for our residents, faculty and staff. I want to congratulate Seeu Susarla (HMS) and Ed Lahey (faculty) on their marriages this Spring. Congratulations to Brad Williams and his wife, Ada, on the birth of their daughter, Madeline, born March 14 and Kelly Deyoe (Holmes) & and her husband, Mark, on the birth of their son Mark.

I would like to acknowledge our faculty who have been honored recently: Maria Troulis and Leslie Halpern were elected to be members of the Omicron Kappa Upsilon (OKU) national honor society as HSDM faculty members. They were both honored for their teaching and mentoring at the annual OKU dinner at the Harvard Faculty Club. Thomas Dodson received the HSDM distinguished senior faculty award at the Class Day Celebration and was also elected Vice-President of the Gamma Gamma Chapter of the OKU national dental honor society. A special donation was made to The Kenneth B. Schwartz Center in Boston honoring David Keith as a compassionate caregiver. The mission of the Schwartz Center is to promote compassionate health care by strengthening the relationship between patients and caregivers.

This year the Annual Meeting of the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons will be in Toronto, Canada. Suzanne Byrne has been working hard to plan a successful alumni dinner on Thursday, October 15 at 7:00 pm. It will be held at the Jump Cafe & Bar in Toronto. You will receive formal invitations this summer but please save the date. We hope to have a large turnout again for a fun evening of socializing with friends and fellow alumni. Please bring to the dinner your memories and your stories that always make this a great event.

I hope that you all have a wonderful year and that I see you in Toronto in October.
Department Highlights

- **34th Yankee Dental Congress:** Thomas B. Dodson lectured on Biphosphonate-Related Osteonecrosis of the Jaws: An Update; Leslie Halpern on Strategies for the identification/intervention of victims of violence and abuse: child, adult, elderly; and Jeffrey Shaef er on Pain Management in the Oral Surgery setting of the dental auxiliary.
- **Maria Troulis** served on the Advisory Committee of the American Board of OMS for the certification examination February 2009. Other MGH faculty and former residents Bonnie Padwa, Mark Zajkowski and Katherine Keeley also served.
- Two of our HSDM students presented abstracts at the 87th General Session & Exhibition of the International Association of Dental Research (IADR) exhibition in April. Zach Abramson’s abstract was entitled “Three-dimensional computed tomographic (3-D CT) analysis of airway anatomy”; and James Tagoni’s was “Effects of mandibular distraction osteogenesis on airway anatomy in children”.
- The AMA National Advisory Council meeting on Violence and Abuse was held in Washington, DC in April. Leslie Halpern was one of the speakers invited to Capitol Hill to address the importance of examining violence and abuse across the lifespan of individuals. In addition, Dr. Halpern served on a National Panel on April 24 in Minnesota, the topic of which was: Sowing Seeds of Academic Change in the education of medical and dental students on violence and abuse ID/intervention.
- **Walter Guralnick** was presented with the Arnold K. Maislen Award at New York University on June 12. The award is in recognition of those individuals who have made significant contributions to the art and science of oral and maxillofacial surgery. Following the awards ceremony, Dr. Guralnick gave the keynote address at the graduation of the senior residents of the oral and maxillofacial service.
- **Leonard B. Kaban** presented two keynote lectures at the Italian National Maxillo-Facial Congress in June in Torino, Italy. His lectures were on Hemifacial Mircosomia and Vascular Malformations of the Head and Neck in Children.

Residency Program

*By Maria Troulis, DDS, Msc*

Wow…another academic year draws to a close! It feels like we just started! It has been a very busy and productive year. I would like to provide a brief update of improvements and changes made in the residency program during this academic year:

- Our Residency Coordinator, Jennifer Ferguson, decided to be a stay-home-mom with the arrival of her second child. Larry Voss has seamlessly filled her post and done a fantastic job with maintenance of the program and preparing for the internal review and upcoming external review!! Welcome aboard Larry!
- On March 4th we had our MGH Graduate Medical Education Committee sponsored internal review! We were commended on the organization, clinical training and working atmosphere in the program. Suggestions were made to further improve and these will be implemented in the upcoming year!
- The formal surgical anatomy course was increased to 12 hours. Thank you to Drs. August, Bouchard, Ferraro and Lahey, the faculty who made this a wonderful learning experience for the residents! The course was completed by a delicious dinner at Ma Soba.
- Sue Farrel, a curriculum specialist from the Graduate Medical Education Office, is working with me to review, assess and continue to improve the resident program curriculum.

With regards to the chief residents—Matt Jacobsen, Jay Ramirez and Basel Sharaf — Dr. Kaban has outlined their future plans in the “Chief’s Corner”. We are very proud of all of you! These residents have been an absolute joy to work with. I look forward to hearing about their future accomplishments and wish them the best of luck. Please do not forget to visit or call or invite us to come visit!

Our four graduating interns have done a superb job! Natalie Tung and Yedeh Ying are heading to Harvard Medical School. Shawn Marsh will be starting his OMFS Residency at Tufts and Maher Jindali-Rifai will be going to complete a 1-year residency with Dr. Eissig at Columbia (NY)!

The rising senior residents are Sal Afshar, Alex Katsnelson and Rizan “Rizo” Nashef. I know it will be a great year for the chief residents. The best ever, I hope!! The junior residents, “the 3 musketeers” are returning. That would be Paul Gordon, Cory Resnick and Brad Williams. Welcome back! Congratulations to Brad and Ada; they had a beautiful baby girl, Madeline!

Our graduating AO-ASIF Clinical Research Fellow is Carl Bouchard. He came to us from University of Laval (recommended by Dr. Pierre-Eric Landry). We were quickly enchanted with his superb clinical skills, enthusiasm to operate, his research productivity (8 publications) and mild-manner!! Although very sad that he is leaving us, we are proud of him as he starts a full-time academic career at L’Hospital L’Enfant Jesus (Laval, Quebec). He will continue his research work in surgical navigation with us. Bon Chance mon petit!

We are thrilled to welcome back Maria Papadaki!

As I complete my fourth year as Program Director, I want to thank our terrific faculty, especially Meredith August for being a great Didactic course co-director and Bonnie Padwa for all her assistance in the Longwood area. Shelly Abramowicz has done a great job as a first year clinic and on-call attending. I both needed and greatly appreciated guidance and support from Jules Dienstag, Ron Arky, Bob Mayer, Walter Guralnick, Charlie Jeffrey, Peter Dunn, Wilton Levine and Charlie Ferguson. A special thank you to all the auxiliary staff, led by Carolyn Dever, for their assistance with the daily functioning of our busy resident clinic, and John McGillivray, our Departmental Administrative Director. John has become a terrific asset in helping with the residency! Finally, a special thank you to my long-time mentor, Len Kaban. Thank you for your tutelage and I hope you are happy and proud of your program!! I wish everyone a terrific summer!

MGH Dental Group

*By Agnes Lau, DMD*

The MGH has honored the faculty and staff of the MGH Dental Group by establishing the Division of Dentistry in the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery. The MGH Dental Group has serviced the clinical and educational needs of the hospital since 1990, and is now charged with the mission of developing a research component, and of expanding its scope of clinical care, educational endeavors, and community outreach. Agnes Lau, Director of the MGH Dental Group since its inception, was named Chief of the Division. She and all of the attending staff thank
Leonard Kaban, Chief of the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, Ann Prestipino, Senior Vice President Surgical and Anesthesia Services and Clinical Business Development, David Torchiana, Chairman and CEO of the MGPO, and Peter Slavin, President of the MGH, for their confidence in the group and support over the years.

Members of the MGH Dental Group staff have been active in a number of professional activities. Miguel Vidal presented a talk entitled "Prosthodontic Rehabilitation of Trauma Patients" at Yankee Dental Congress 34 and another entitled "Influence of Implant Design in Achieving Esthetic Outcomes" at a lecture for the Lincoln Study Club in Lincoln, MA. Nicholas Dello Russo is serving on the Advisory Board of the Forsyth School for Dental Hygienists and wrote a letter to the editor of JADA in its April issue concerning prison inmates’ lack of access to dental care and the potential abuse by prison personnel in controlling access to health care. David Kim co-authored the article “Human histologic evaluation of mineralized collagen bone substitute and recombinant platelet-derived growth factor-BB to create bone for implant placement in extraction socket defects at 4 and 6 months: A case series” in the International Journal of Prosthetics and Restorative Dentistry. Congratulations to Michael Joseph on becoming board-certified in Endodontics, and to Saeed Kashefi for achieving fellowship in the Academy of General Dentistry.

Jennifer Magee will join the full time faculty in July after completing the BWH Harvard-Wide General Practice Residency and a year as a Fellow in Hospital Dentistry. She will also be enrolled in an MPH program at the Harvard School of Public Health. Jennifer is interested in health care disparities as they relate to dentistry and we look forward to her contribution to the Department and the MGH. We also wish to welcome Kim Weiss, who will return to the faculty in September after seven years in Princeton NJ. We are all looking forward to having Kim as part of the group again.

We thank our general practice residents for a job well done while on rotation at the MGH this past academic year and wish them well in their future endeavors. Colleen Anderson will be working at the Boston Health Care for the Homeless as part of her work for the U.S. Public Health Service. Sumra Khan will be a fellow in hospital dentistry at the BWH next year. Catherine Do will be in the postdoctoral prosthodontics program at USC. Elizabeth Leddy will be working at Roxbury Comprehensive Community HealthCare Center. Jingyi He will commence her oral surgery training at BMC. The new GPR residents starting in July will be Nicole Armour from the University of Connecticut and Debra Levin from the University of Toronto.

Congratulations to Yana Posemeynik on her marriage to Vitaly Shusterov. Lisa Lyle, RDH and Michael Butts welcomed the births of twins, Ada and Madison, on March 29, 2009.

Center for Applied Clinical Investigation
By Thomas Dodson, DMD, MPH

Now beginning its fourth year, CACI continues to be active in patient-oriented research activities. For our first foray into molecular epidemiology research, we are working with Dr. Thanos Zavras at HSDM on an NIH-funded project looking at genetic markers associated with BRONJ. We participated with other departmental faculty in publishing a manuscript assessing the predictive value of CD34 as a biomarker of giant cell behavior. Also with other departmental faculty and as a joint venture with the Dept. of Orthopedics, we are analyzing tissues using laser microdissection techniques to isolate RNA from giant cells and the surrounding stromal cells to develop a genetic signature to discriminate between aggressive and non-aggressive giant cell lesions.

CACI Director Dr. Thomas Dodson was asked by AAOMS to testify before the American Association of Public Health Dentistry (AAPHD) Executive Council against a proposed resolution opposing prophylactic removal of third molars. He was successful in having the proposal tabled after testifying earlier on the same topic at the American Public Health Association with a less successful outcome. Read about Dr. Dodson’s experience in “Confessions of an accidental politician” (JOMS, 67:1153-4, 2009). Dr. Sung-Kiang Chuang co-authored an abstract presented at the Academy of Osseointegration Annual Meeting.

Former CACI/OMS Foundation Clinical Investigation fellow, Dr. Seenu Susarla, now a HMS III, managed to get married in addition to his prolific research activities. He is preparing a chapter on the evidence-based management of asymptomatic wisdom teeth. Former CACI fellow, Dr. Michael Markiewicz, is completing his OMS internship at Oregon. He prepared an article included in the recent JOMS update on BRONJ and a critique of the methods used in a meta-analysis of management of condylar fractures also published in JOMS.

Dr. Leslie Halpern continues to develop and refine a diagnostic protocol to identify women with injuries due to intimate partner violence (IPV). She is a national spokesperson on IPV and represents AAOMS in other clinical venues such as the AMA’s taskforce on domestic violence. Most recently, she presented on domestic violence at the 63rd Annual Meeting of the International Society of Otalaryngology in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Dr. Dodson, presented at the 3rd International OMS Society Congress in Antalya, Turkey on EBM topics related to fracture management. He also directed a focus group on Career Development and Mentoring at the AAOMS-sponsored Young Investigators’ Day. Dr. Dodson continues to serve on the Board of Directors for the OMS Foundation. The excellence of our student research is a direct result of OMS Foundation support. We urge alumni and faculty to support us by becoming members of the Foundation and contributing generously to the REAP program. For information, see https://www.omsfoundation.org/giving/donatenow.aspx.

For continued updates on CACI’s activities and opportunities, bookmark our site at www.caciOMS.org.

Predoctoral OMFS at HSDM
By Thomas Flynn, DMD

As the Harvard School of Dental Medicine prepares to graduate the class of 2009, our department has much to be proud of. The influence of the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery on predoctoral dental education is increasing and broadening. Not only have 5 graduates been accepted in OMS residency programs, another top student, Cara Riley, will enter dental anesthesiology training at Ohio State University in July. Batya Goldwaser will begin her OMS residency at MGH; she won the AAOMS Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Award. Tyman Loveless won the AAOMS dental implantology award, and he will enter OMS residency at Case Western Reserve University. John Wessel will begin his OMS training at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey. He will be joined in the greater New York Area by Joel Berley at Montefiore Medical Center (Albert Einstein College of Medicine) in the Bronx. Rachel Garra will move to Chapel Hill and begin her OMS residency at the University of North Carolina.
UPCOMING EVENTS!

MGH Alumni Dinner at AAOMS MEETING

Thursday, October 15, 2009,
Jump Café & Bar
Toronto

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Predoctoral OMFS at HSDM (Cont.)

Thus, 16% of the class of 2009 has been accepted in oral and maxillofacial surgery. The Class of 2009 performed 879 dental extractions for an average of 28.4 extractions per student. The champion of the class, John Wessel, performed 214 extractions, left-handed nonetheless. This class averaged 2.0 nitrous oxide sedations (the requirement), and observed 4.8 operating room surgeries.

The Advanced Surgical Treatment Course (ASTX) has completed 8 consecutive years with the same tutors, Leslie Halpern, Sung-Kiang Chuang, and Tom Flynn. We have added a fourth OMS to the team of tutors, Bilal Ahmed, who is also serving as an ITI implantology fellow this year. Now all of the tutor in ASTX are oral and maxillofacial surgeons. Meredith August has taken on new lectures on the early diagnosis of oral cancer and biopsy techniques in ASTX. As usual, the student course evaluations have been outstanding. The students are excited about the course’s emphasis on applying evidence-based principles to OMS problems.

We are continuing to augment our efforts and offerings to the 3rd year class as they enter clinics, with the Introduction to the Dental Patient course. This is the fruition of Ed Seldin and Walter Guralnick’s efforts to apply the medical knowledge the students have recently acquired to dental practice. Therefore, the students receive information on evaluation of the medical history, modifications of dental care in the medically compromised patient, the use and abuse of antibiotics, principles of surgery, and surgical asepsis at the very beginning of their core clinical year. Our hats are off to Howard Howell, Nadeem Karimbux, and Anna Jotkowitz (course director) for including this important OMS input in this seminal clinical course.

Alumni News

We were delighted to hear from the following alumni and have posted their “news” on our website at www.mghOMS.org.

Class of 1979 — Thomas Connolly
Class of 1984 — Joseph Wilkes and Eric Redmon
Class of 1989 — Reed Day and Earl Freymiller
Class of 1994 — Jean Bruch
Class of 1999 — Leon Ardekian
                        — Mary Collins
Class of 2004 — Mark Nissenbaum
Class of 2006 — Marci Levine

Congratulations to the following graduates who have completed the ABOMS certification process:

Class of 2001 — Dexter Johnson
Class of 2003 — Dan Clark
Class of 2004 — Tuan Bui
Class of 2007 — Killian MacCarthy and Steve Smullin