



TEL AVIV UNIVERSITY

The Maurice and Gabriela Goldschleger School of Dental Medicine

Newsletter

Founded by the Alpha Omega International Dental Fraternity



December 2006

Report from the Head of the School



Prof. H. Tal, Head of the School

Next year (2007) the Maurice and Gabriela Goldschleger School of Dental Medicine of Tel Aviv University will celebrate its 30th anniversary. Exactly ten years ago we celebrated our 20th anniversary in conjunction with the flying start of the campaign “Focus on the Future – The Next Generation” during which we raised more than \$2,500,000. The next generation is here, and we face a new crisis and a real threat: unless we balance its budget our School may be closed. Many solutions have been suggested. One has been seriously investigated, i.e., entering yet again into a joint project with the Kupat Holim sick fund. However, none of the suggestions offered until recently seemed to offer a solid long term solution.

I have recently brought to the University administration a new proposition that has the support of a significant number of senior faculty. According to this plan the faculty will take major responsibility for all the activities of the school including undergraduate, postgraduate and continuing education activities, and at the same time will be responsible for reducing the school’s deficit to a minimum. Most faculty will have to teach on a voluntary basis and will be reimbursed by working additional hours in the new Gerald Niznick clinics which will be established on the entrance floor of the School. The profits accruing from the clinical activities will be shared by those who have no other income from the University. Will this work? I believe it will: working for ourselves rather than for Kupat Holim or any other partner will create motivation, excellence, and eventually bear fruit.

It remains for me to add once again my personal appreciation and sincere thanks to our extended family and friends from all over the world for thirty years of selfless commitment to our School, and to give my assurance that we shall do our very best to uphold the confidence that you, our benefactors, have shown us by maintaining the highest standards of scientific and educational excellence. Let us hope together that our financial problems will be solved during the coming year, and that the School will be able once again to concentrate on teaching and research.

Research News

Congratulations to Dr. Abraham Hirshberg of the Department of Oral Pathology and Oral Medicine who has been awarded an international grant of \$340,000 (the FAMRI Clinical Innovator Award) as well as funding from the Israel Cancer Association. These awards were granted to Hirshberg and collaborators Prof. Gidi Rechavi, Prof. Shlomo Taicher, and Dr. Luba Trakhtenbrot of our Medical Faculty and the Sheba Medical Center who jointly developed a novel non-invasive method of examining oral brush samples for the presence of non-diploid cells. The technique involves simultaneous analysis of morphology and fluorescent in-situ hybridization (FISH) and is expected to increase the correct diagnosis of premalignant oral lesions. Following receipt of these prestigious grants, Dr. Hirshberg was invited to lecture on this topic at the Second Joint American-Israeli Conference on Cancer, June 2006.

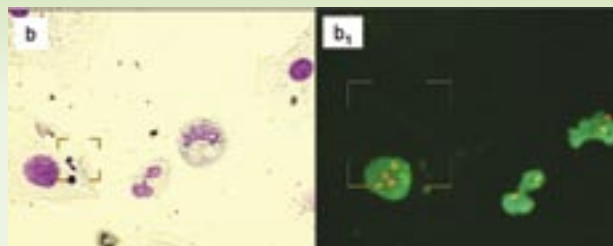


Fig 1. Combined analysis of morphology and FISH on the same cells, on the left, cells stained with Giemsa and on the right the same cells with dual color FISH using chromosome 2 and 8 probes.

Fig 2. Dr. A Hirshberg with Stanley Rosenblatt, FAMRI's Chairman and CEO, Susan Rosenblatt, FAMRI Trustee, and Dr. Luba Trakhtenbrot, Head of Molecular Cytogenetic Laboratory at the Cancer Research Center, Sackler Faculty of Medicine, The Chaim Sheba Medical Center, Tel-Hashomer.

National Events

The “Special Olympics”

In May 2006, an important sport event took place in Israel: the Special Olympics. This is an event in which children and adults with intellectual disabilities compete. They develop improved physical fitness and motor skills, greater self-confidence and a more positive self-image. They grow mentally, socially and spiritually and, through their activities, exhibit boundless courage and enthusiasm, enjoy the rewards of friendship and ultimately discover not only new abilities and talents but “their voices” as well.

The event is organized by “Special Olympics Israel”, a part of the international Special Olympics, a nonprofit organization dedicated to empowering individuals with intellectual disabilities to become physically fit, productive and respected members of society through sports training and competition. Special Olympics currently serves more than 2.25 million persons with intellectual disabilities in more than 200 Programs in more than 150 countries. During the games, the athletes undergo medical examinations. Oral examination is a major part in the overall medical examinations. Oral

examinations were carried out by teams of pediatric dentists, dental students, and dental hygienists, all from the **Department of Pediatric Dentistry at the School of Dental Medicine in Tel Aviv University**. Each athlete received a written report about his/her oral and dental status, and recommendations for the parents or care givers regarding further treatment if needed.



International Activities

Delegation to the International Congress on Oral Pathology and Medicine

The International Association of Oral Pathologists held its 13th biennial congress in June 2006 in Brisbane, Australia. Approximately 250 oral pathologists from over 30 nations participated in the congress.

The Israeli delegation to the congress included three members of the Department of Oral Pathology and Oral Medicine – Prof. A. Buchner, Dr. M. Vered and Dr. I. Allon. Dr. M. Vered presented a paper entitled “Nasal spray calcitonin for treatment of central giant cell granuloma – clinical, radiological and histological findings and immunohistochemical expression of glucocorticoid and calcitonin receptors” co-authored by Prof. A. Buchner, Dr. I. Shohat, Prof. S. Taicher and Prof. D. Dayan. Dr. I. Allon presented a paper entitled “Maspin expression in normal, inflammatory and benign tumors of minor salivary glands” co-authored by Dr. M. Vered, Prof. D. Dayan and Prof. A. Buchner.

Prof. A. Buchner presented a paper entitled “Peripheral odontogenic tumors” co-authored by Prof. W. Carpenter

and Prof. P. Merrell of the University of the Pacific, San Francisco.

Prof. A. Buchner, Dr. Vered and Dr. I. Allon also presented posters at the 2006 General Session of the International Association for Dental Research held in Brisbane, Australia



Israeli delegation

From left to right: Prof. A. Buchner, Dr. I. Allon and Dr. M. Vered

TAUSDM Delegation to the European Congress on Osseointegration wins two prestigious Academy Awards



From left to right: Prof. C. Nemcovsky, Dr. A. Kozlovsky, Prof. H. Tal

■ The European Academy of Osseointegration (Implantology) held its fifteenth annual congress in October 2006 in Zurich Switzerland. More than 2000 periodontists, oral and maxillofacial surgeons and implantologists gathered from all over the world to discuss and present new technologies, concepts and state of the art in implant dentistry.

■ Three members from the Department of Oral Periodontology actively participated in the congress: Prof. Haim Tal, Prof. Carlos Nemcovsky, and Dr. Avital Kozlovsky as a poster presenter. Prof. Tal also participated in the annual research competition of the academy.

- Prof. Tal presented a Novel Tactile Concept for Implant Navigation known as the Implant Locating System (ILS). Recent studies at TAU have shown that this technique helps to place dental implants with accuracy close to 0.2mm to a preplanned software treatment plan. Prof. Nemcovsky discussed the state of the art of regenerative resorbable membranes with special attention given to the timing of implant placement and membrane type in healing of bony defects around implants.

- Dr. Kozlovsky (co-authored by H. Tal, B. Laufer, R. Lechem, M. Rohrer, M. Weinreb and Z. Artzi) presented a poster on the impact of implant overloading on the peri-implant bone. The poster was ranked number one out of 308 submissions, and Dr. Kozlovsky was awarded the "The best poster" award for 2006.

- Last but not least, Prof Tal took part in the annual research competition of the Academy. Eight speakers were elected out of some 200 competitors. Prof. Tal's presentation on Biodurability of ribose cross-linked and non cross-linked collagen membranes in guided bone regeneration procedures was ranked third. Prof. Tal's co-authors included Dr. A. Kozlovsky, C. Nemcovsky, Z. Artzi, and O. Moses.

- Prof. Miron Weinreb, chairman of the Department of Oral Biology at TAU, spent a mini-Sabbatical in the School of Medicine of Tufts University in Boston, where he collaborated with Tufts scientists on various aspects on gene expression of bone osteoprogenitor cells. Prof. Weinreb delivered a seminar entitled "Prostaglandins as bone anabolic agents: mechanisms and target cells".

- Prof. A. Tamse, Chair of the Department of Endodontology, was an invited speaker at the American Association of Endodontics Annual Session, held at Honolulu in March, 2006.

- Prof. Tamse's talk was entitled "Differential diagnosis of fractures in crowns and in endodontically treated roots."



Prof. I. Eli holding Mel's book

- Prof. Ilana Eli spent a two months sabbatical, during the months January-February 2006 at the Bauro School of Dentistry, University of Sao Paulo, Brazil. Prof. Eli was the personal guest of the Dean, Prof. Maria Fidela de Lima Navarro, and lectured extensively on the subjects of her expertise (psychological aspects of pain, behavioral aspects of dentistry and dental care). During her visit, Prof. Eli was happy to find, in the University's library, the book on Halitosis edited by Prof. Mel Rosenberg, translated into Portuguese.

During her visit in Brazil, Prof. Eli established a new collaborative research project regarding the impact of cultural and ethnic issues on TMD problems. The research will compare Brazilian and Israeli patients suffering from TMD. The project will be conducted in collaboration with Prof. Francisco de Pereira Jr., of the Faculta de Odontologia in Unigranrio and Dr. Ephraim Winocur, of our School.

In September, 2006, Prof. Eli was invited to Sweden as the keynote speaker at the 4th Goteborg Dental Symposium on Behavioral Science in Dentistry. Prof. Eli lectured on "Pain management in dental care – the role of psychological factors".

Internatinal President of AO on his visit to Israel on December 2006 met the students and faculty at the Maurice and Gabriela Goldschleger school of Dental Medicine at Tel-Aviv University.

Dr. Braunstein was hosted by former Dean of the school Prof. Israel Kaffe for a tour In the school.

AO Tel-Aviv Chapter invited Dr. Braunstein to a dinner party.



from left to right (sitting): Dr. Braunstein, prof. Tal, his wife Hadasa, Dr. Slutzky. (standing): Dr. Serebro, Dr. Helft

Awards and Honors

On June 1st, 2007 the School will honor Prof. Daniel van Steenberghe, University of Leuven, with a special series of lectures under the sponsorship of the Niznick Chair for Periodontology. Prof. van Steenberghe is a highly distinguished international researcher with many international honors and over 300 scientific papers and books to his credit. He is Chair of the Department of Periodontology at the Catholic University of Leuven (K.U.Leuven), Professor ordinarius at the Faculty of Medicine, and incumbent of the Prof. P-I Brånemark Chair in Osseointegration. Prof. van Steenberghe has been associated with the School practically since its inception and has always been one of its ardent academic supporters. His visit will be co-hosted by Prof. Haim Tal, Head of School and Incumbent of the Niznick Chair, and Prof. Mel Rosenberg, with whom he has worked closely for the past fifteen years, in the area of breath odor research.



Prof. van Steenberghe at an international congress at Tel Aviv University

Graduation Ceremony of the Fifth Class of International Postgraduate Program in Orthodontics, 2003-2006

On October 27, 2006, the Department of Orthodontics celebrated the graduation of the fifth class of the International Postgraduate Program in Orthodontics.

The occasion was honored by the presence of His Excellency the Ambassador of Cyprus in Israel, Mr. George Zodiates, the Scientific Attaché of the French Embassy in Israel, Mr. Philippe Carlevan, First Secretary of the Greek Embassy in Israel, Mr. Ilias Kremmydas and the Cultural Attaché of the Mexican Embassy in Israel, Ms. Laura Garcia.

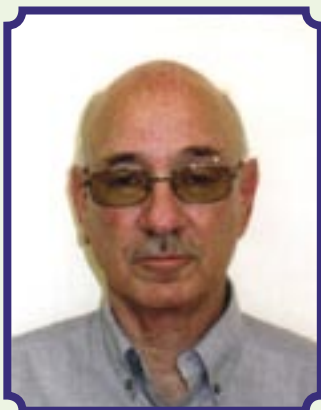
The ceremony was attended by the Rector and other University representatives, families of the graduates



The graduation ceremony of the 5th class of the International Postgraduate Program in Orthodontics

(who came from Cyprus, France, Greece and Mexico), heads of the departments of the Dental School, the twenty students of the graduating class and the new postgraduate class, as well as all the faculty members. Dr. Andreas Loizou (from Cyprus) and Dr. Tamar Finkelstein (from Israel) received awards for outstanding academic achievement.

The scientific program was opened by Prof. Christoph Bourauel from the University of Bonn, Germany. His lecture was titled "Orthodontic wires – from history to the state of the art". This was followed by the presentations and research studies (part of their Master's in Orthodontics), of Dr. Andreas Loizou, Dr. Yoav Mazor and Dr. Aiki Rontogianni, three of the graduating students. Following them, seven students, Dr. Tamar Finkelstein, Dr. Nickolaos Lianopoulos, Dr. Erez Pais, Dr. Galit Peleg, Dr. Daniel Robbins and Dr. Céline Soussan presented orthodontic cases treated by them during their residencies.



Prof. A. Buchner to be Honored

From time to time, the British Society of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology nominates individuals who have given distinguished service to the specialty of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology, for honorary membership in the society.

This year, the British Society decided to bestow the honorary membership on Prof. A. Buchner, Chairman of the Department of Oral Pathology and Oral Medicine, School of Dental Medicine, Tel Aviv University.



Prof. (Emeritus) Max Weinreb Awarded Honorary Fellow

Prof. Weinreb has been awarded the title of Honorary Fellow of the Faculty of Medicine, TAU, for his scientific achievements, his pioneering role in the development of dental research in Israel, and his visionary leadership in establishing the School of Dental Medicine at the Tel-Aviv University.

Prof. Weinreb is one of the pioneers of dental research in Israel. After his D.D.S. degree, he earned a M.S. degree from the University of Illinois between 1948-1950, where he studied with the world leaders in Oral Histology such as M. Massler and I. Schour. Upon his return to Israel, Prof. Weinreb joined the Faculty of Dental Medicine at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, where he headed the Department of Oral Histology for more than 20 years. In this position, Prof. Weinreb gained an international recognition as a world expert in tooth eruption after publishing many papers on the subject.

At the same time, Prof. Weinreb was one of the founders of the Dental Division of the Faculty of Continuing Medical Education at the Tel-Aviv University (TAU), which he headed between 1963 and 1970. This academic entity was the basis for the establishment of the School of Dental Medicine at TAU in 1978. In recognition of his paramount role in founding the Dental School, Prof. Weinreb was appointed as its first Head (1978-1980), as well as the head of the Department of Oral Biology, which he chaired until his retirement in 1993. His book entitled "The establishment of an advanced dental school", published in 1969, is clear evidence of his vision.



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