UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY
THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA AT BIRMINGHAM
PROSPECTUS

ADVANCED EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM IN ORTHODONTICS

OBJECTIVE:
The Orthodontic Department has as its objective the education of excellent, ethical, compassionate, and versatile practitioners in the art and science of orthodontics. In addition, the program will provide a basis for graduates to pursue an academic career if they so desire.

TYPE OF PROGRAM:
The Post-doctoral program extends over a period of 33 ½ months and leads to a certificate in Orthodontics. Those applicants wishing to pursue a Master’s Degree will be admitted to the Graduate School, where in addition to completing the didactic courses offered, the student will be required to complete a thesis based on original research. On successful completion of requirements of the program and defense of a thesis, the candidate will be awarded a Master’s Degree in Clinical Dentistry as well as a Certificate in Orthodontics.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF PROGRAM:
The graduate program is designed to educate and train specialist orthodontists to meet the standards of the American Dental Association Commission on Dental Education for Advanced Education Programs in Orthodontics to satisfy the American Board of Orthodontics requirements. The course extends over three academic years and combines laboratory and clinical work with didactic courses in the postgraduate program and in the graduate school. Successful completion of the course leads to a specialty certificate.

For the Certificate (non-degree) Program, there will be tuition/fees of approximately $7,242.00 per academic year. Since students may also be enrolled in the Graduate School, additional fees will have to be paid for various prescribed courses in the graduate program.

Each student will be required to purchase instruments, a camera, laptop computer, books, an articulator, and other supplies as specified by the Department. The total costs of these items could amount to approximately $15,000.

All students are required to carry acceptable health insurance and furnish proof to this effect. Upon notification of acceptance either by telephone or letter, a deposit of $850.00 must be remitted by Cashier's Check. This is not refundable under any circumstances but is applied against the tuition charges at the time of matriculation. At time of enrollment students must present certification of vaccination for, or immunity to, Hepatitis B.

The Orthodontic program is a participant in the PASS (Postdoctoral Application Support Service) central application service sponsored by the American Association of Dental Schools. Interested applicants can apply through PASS or directly through the dental school. Completed applications and supporting documents must be received in this office by September 15 in order to be considered for the programs beginning the following summer. PASS applications can be requested online at their website address, www.ADEA.org. Direct applications can be requested from the Postdoctoral Admissions Office at the School of Dentistry by calling 205-934-5357; or by email smoorer@uab.edu.
This program is also a participant of the National Matching Program. The administration of the matching program, including the performance of the match, is carried out by National Matching Services, as an independent contractor. Applicants for the Orthodontic program should submit a request for an application agreement form which is enclosed with this prospectus and mail it to the address at the top of the request form. If there are any questions regarding the matching program prior to application, applicants should contact the following office;

National Matching Services  
595 Bay Street  
Suite 301  
Toronto, Ontario  
CANADA M5G 2C2  
Telephone: (416) 977-3431  
Fax: (416) 977-5020

(It is the responsibility of the applicant to forward their match number to our office at UAB School of Dentistry).

Formal interviews by the Selection Committee will be scheduled by the Program Director for finalists for the program. The deadline for receipt of completed applications is September 15th, the year preceding the one for which the student is applying. Selection and notification of students is usually made in early December for the class beginning July 1st.

New students report July 1st for orientation. Students will be required to obtain and maintain appropriate professional liability insurance, which is obtained through the UAB Medical Liability Trust Fund.

For first, second and third year students, there may be limited financial support, if available, in the form of teaching assistantships with the teaching obligations being limited. Teaching responsibilities will be required of all students regardless of availability of funding.

Participation in advanced dental education programs requires concentrated full-time effort on the student's part. Consequently, each student should plan his or her other responsibilities accordingly.

**PRE-CLINICAL COURSE:**

A planned pre-clinical course is given prior to treating patients and will include various aspects of orthodontic technology. This section of the course will include wire bending exercises, soldering, appliance fabrication, and completion of study casts.

The student will also be required to be proficient in taking complete orthodontic records which include history, study casts, cephalometric radiographs, panoramic radiographs and photographic and imaging techniques prior to beginning patient treatment. Orthodontic diagnosis and treatment planning will be an ongoing teaching process to be continued in conjunction with didactic courses, lectures, seminars and patient treatment including orthognathic surgery, cleft palate patients, and temporomandibular dysfunction patients.
PATIENT TREATMENT:

The major technique taught will be an edgewise technique using pre-angulated pre-torqued brackets. A limited number of patients, however, will be treated using removable and other appliances. Many new patients will be started by the incoming students, and they will also receive transfer patients. The transfer of the patients from third to second year students is carried out during January, February, and March prior to the third year students completing their program in April.

Transfer forms of the American Association of Orthodontists are used for patient transfer purposes. Each student will have the opportunity of undertaking treatment of patients during all stages of treatment including those in retention.

Students will also have the opportunity of interacting with other departments where orthodontic treatment will form part of the treatment procedure such as in orthognathic surgery, cleft palate, periodontal and prosthodontic patients etc. Orthognathic surgery plays a significant role in the orthodontic program and occupies an appropriate amount of time. A portion of the clinic program is devoted to the management of temporomandibular joint disorders.

Guidance therapy will involve early treatment of selected patients. Early treatment or intervention of orthodontic patients is also taught.

DIDACTIC COURSES, SEMINARS AND ASSIGNMENTS:

I. The following didactic courses are currently being offered. The list is subject to periodic alterations.

- Selected topics in Anatomy of the Head and Neck
- Advanced Oral Pathology
- Advanced Craniofacial Growth/Genetics
- Evidence Based Orthodontics
- Design and Analysis on Clinical Dental Research
- Craniofacial Syndrome Series
- Multidisciplinary Seminars
- Translational Literature Reviews
- Physiology and Concepts of Occlusion
- Orthodontic Biomechanics
- Cleft Lip and Palate
- Surgical Orthodontics
- Temporomandibular Disorders
- Photography and Cephalometrics
- Scientific Writing and Evaluation of Literature
- Bio-Statistics
- Special Topics (TMD, Obstructive Sleep Apnea, Ethics and Jurisprudence, Biomaterials, Psychology, Pharmacology, Practice Management, etc…)
- Advanced Topics in Orthodontics (Orthognathic Surgery, Temporary Anchorage Devices, 3D Imaging etc…)

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Students will also be required to attend other selected courses and lectures. Some courses are offered only bi-annually.

II. Seminars are held daily to cover various aspects of orthodontics. These will include topics prepared by the students with one or more faculty members in attendance. The seminars will embrace orthodontic diagnosis, treatment planning, visual treatment objectives, case presentations as well as literature reviews of current and selected scientific papers and other pertinent material. Comprehensive literature reviews with written summaries are also conducted in seminar format.

Selected seminars are also conducted for students by invited clinicians and teachers. In addition, students may be required to attend weekend continuing education courses in subjects pertinent to their interests and must register for them, at very minimal cost, at the Continuing Education Office. Students will be expected to observe the courtesies required by the Continuing Education Office. Students are also expected to attend the Annual Alabama Orthodontic Alumni Meeting.

**ATTENDANCE TIME:**
The program commences July 1st and ends 33 ½ months later in the middle of April. The students have a full five-day schedule from 8:00 to 5:00 unless earlier lectures are scheduled. Should the School of Dentistry, or any other department, present a weekend course which would relate to their education or be of orthodontic interest, the students may be required to attend.

The students are expected to familiarize themselves with the departmental manual and to abide by all the rules contained therein.

**TIME OFF:**
During the scheduled holidays, it is the policy of the department to allow each student adequate time off. Some emergency clinic coverage is necessary. This will be rotated in as equitable a manner as possible.

Each student may take time to attend dental meetings, or state board examinations of his choice. This time will be with the approval of the Program Director. The second and third year students will generally have preference as to conventions they would like to attend. Financial support for attendance at selected meetings may be available. At no time may all postgraduate students be absent at the same time, except when the department is officially closed.

**FACILITIES:**
The Department of Orthodontics has its own facility within the main clinic building at the School of Dentistry. This clinic has 17 newly equipped operatories. Facilities also include two conference rooms with projection equipment, a project room, laboratory, computer/video imaging room, digital radiology equipment, two CBCT imaging systems, a 3dMD surface imaging system, and departmental office space. The clinic also has digital photography, computer patient check-in and appointment, and digital charts. Electronic study casts are also used.

**DISCLAIMER:**
The contents of this prospectus represent the most current information available at the time of publication. It is possible that changes may be made with respect to this information without prior notice. The provisions of this prospectus are not to be regarded as an irrevocable contract between the school and the student.
FACULTY:
Full-time members of the Department of Orthodontics include:

**Professor and Chairman**
Chung How Kau, BDS, MScD, MBA, PHD, MOrth, FDS, FFD, FAMS

**Assistant Professor and Pre-Doctoral Director**
Nada M. Soucar, DDS, MS

**Associate Professor and Program Director:**
Christo C. Vlachos, DMD, DDS, MS†

**Adjunct Associate Professor and Clinic Director**
Clark Browne, DMD, MS†

**Adjunct Associate Professor and Director of Resident Mentoring**
Richard Bryant, DMD, MS †

**Part-Time Faculty**
Part-time members of the Department of Orthodontics include:

**Adjunct Professor and Chair Emeritus:**
P. Lionel Sadowsky, DMD, BDS, DipOrth, MDent†

**Adjunct Professors:**
Luther T. Cale, Jr., DMD, PhD†
David Sarver, DMD, MS†

**Adjunct Assistant Professors:**
Christine Abenoja, DDS, MS
Christopher Canales, DMD, MS
André Ferreira, DMD, MS †
Alan Jones, DMD,MS
Keith Harvey, DMD,MS†
Timothy Trulove, DMD, MS†
Mark Yanosky, DMD, MS†
Peter Borbely, DDS, PHD
Benedict Wilmes, DMD, MS

†Diplomate, American Board of Orthodontics