

ALD Leadership

Board of Directors 2021-2022

President

Arun Darbar, BDS, DGD (UK) | Leighton Buzzard, United Kingdom

Dr. Darbar is at the forefront of laser dentistry in the United Kingdom and lectures on the subject worldwide. He has been a clinical laser user for nearly 25 years and provides cutting-edge dentistry to his patients. Dr. Darbar is an accredited member of the British Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry Credentialing Committee. He holds ALD Mastership and Educator status and has served as co-chair of Education and Certification, and International Relations Committees. He is a published author, and some of his concepts in Photobiomodulation (PBM) or low-level laser therapy data have been published as proceedings of SPIE in 2006, 2007, and 2009/10; WALT 2008 South Africa and 2012 Australia; and in UK dental publications.

Dr. Darbar is the first and only laser dentist in the UK to be invited to the House of Lords for a charity fundraiser organized by Lasers for Life. Dr. Darbar maintains a private dental practice in Leighton Buzzard, UK.



Contact Dr. Darbar by e-mail at letstalklasers@aol.com. What email is this? adsmiles4u@aol.com

Disclosure: Dr. Darbar served as trainer, educator, and advisor board founding member for Biolase for which he received discounted and beta equipment trials. He also serves as an educator for various dental organizations worldwide for which he receives honoraria and expense reimbursement. Find updated Disclosure from 2021 meeting. There should be something about GMA Laser.

President-Elect and Chairman of 2022 Conference

Samuel B. Low, DDS, MS, MEd | Palm Coast, Florida

Dr. Low is Professor Emeritus, University of Florida College of Dentistry, and Associate faculty member of the Pankey Institute with 30 years of private practice experience in periodontics and implant placement and 12 years with laser management of the periodontal patient. He is also a Diplomate of the American Board of Periodontology and past President of the American Academy of Periodontology. Dr. Low provides dentists and dental hygienists with the tools for successfully managing the periodontal patient in general and periodontal practices and is affiliated with the Florida Probe Corporation. He was selected "Dentist of the Year" by the Florida Dental Association, Distinguished Alumnus by the University of Texas Dental School, and recipient of the Gordon Christensen Lecturer Recognition



Award. He is a Past President of the Florida Dental Association and past Trustee of the American Dental Association

Contact Dr. Low by e-mail at slow@dental.ufl.edu.

Disclosure: Dr. Low receives significant compensation as Chief Dental Officer for Biolase. He also receives significant honoraria as an Advisor for Phillips, has significant ownership interest in Florida Probe, and receives significant compensation as a consultant for PerioScience.

Treasurer and Chairman of 2023 Conference

James Carreiro, DMD | Largo, Florida

Dr. Carreiro received his Bachelor of Science in Biology at Fordham University and Doctorate of Dental Medicine from Boston University College of Dental Medicine. He currently holds ALD Standard Proficiency and Advanced Proficiency certification, Fellowship from the Academy of Laser Dentistry, and Fellowship from the World Clinical Laser Institute (WCLI). Dr. Carreiro is an instructor in Lasers in Periodontics courses at the University of Florida College of Dentistry Department of Continuing Education in Gainesville, Florida, and at the WCLI Laser Periodontal programs. He has a general dentistry practice, which incorporates diode, CO₂, and erbium lasers into almost every aspect of patient care.



Contact Dr. Carreiro by e-mail at carreirojs@hotmail.com.

Disclosure: Dr. Carreiro provides educational training for Biolase and is a stockholder of PerioScience. He is an administrator for SmileB for which he receives compensation.

Secretary

Walid Altayeb, DDS | Dohar, Qatar, and Private Practice, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates (UAE)

Dr. Altayeb is the 2019 recipient of ALD's John Sulewski Distinguished Service Award. He received his dental degree from the Faculty of Dentistry, Damascus University, in 1998 and completed his Master of Science degree in Periodontics in 2004 and Doctorate of Philosophy in Periodontics in 2007. He had been working as a clinical supervisor in Department of Periodontics, Damascus University, Syria. Dr. Altayeb achieved an advanced level of knowledge in the application of lasers in dental science and patient treatment, including Advanced Proficiency certificates from the Academy of Laser Dentistry in 980-nm diode and Er:YAG lasers. He has Mastership in the Academy of Laser Dentistry and is Chair of the ALD Gulf Laser Chapter. Dr. Altayeb conducts "Pink Aesthetics & Laser Dentistry" courses with the British Academy of Implant and Restorative Dentistry in Qatar, Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, Oman, and UAE. He is working in private practice





as a periodontist and implantologist in the Tamim Dental Polyclinic, Doha, Qatar, The British Lasik and Cosmetic Surgery Center, Dubai, UAE, and the Masters Dental and Aesthetic Center, Abu Dhabi, UAE.

Contact Dr. Altayeb by e-mail at dreltayeb@hotmail.com.

Disclosure: Dr. Altayeb is a speaker in the British Academy of Implant and Restorative Dentistry and receives a modest honorarium for his educational activities.

Immediate Past President

Ed Kusek, DDS | Sioux Falls, South Dakota

Dr. Kusek graduated from the University of Nebraska College of Dentistry in 1984. He has served as an Officer of ALD for 5 years and as ALD Communications Chair and Testing subcommittee Chair. He holds the titles of Diplomate of the American Board of Oral Implantology/Implant Dentistry, Fellow of the American Academy of Implant Dentistry, Mastership in Academy of General Dentistry and Academy of Laser Dentistry, and Diplomate of the International Congress of Oral Implantologists. Dr. Kusek is in private general practice in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.



Contact Dr. Kusek by e-mail at edkusek@me.com.

Disclosure: Dr. Kusek lectures for Ultradent and Straumann for which he receives honoraria. He is a consultant and lecturer for Biolase for which he receives use of equipment. He also is a consultant for GPT Dental and Convergent Dental.

Executive Director

Gail Siminovsky, CAE | Coral Springs, Florida

Ms. Siminovsky is a leadership professional and has served as executive director of the Academy of Laser Dentistry since 1999. She raises awareness of the role of lasers as beneficial tools that dentists and hygienists have for treating dental disease. Gail serves the ALD Board as an advisor and is a member of ALD's 22 committees. She earned and maintains the credential Certified Association Executive (CAE) from the American Society of Association Executives (ASAE) and served on ASAE's Small Staff Advisory Committee. Gail serves on the Board of Directors for the Florida Society of Association Executives (FSAE), and is a member of the American Dental Association's Committee on Dental Meetings and National Coalition of General Dental Organizations (NCGDO). Gail has a passion for helping dentists revitalize the way they interact with patients by providing new and improved solutions for dental care. She speaks on governance and board leadership, building strategic alliances, and the importance of associations being knowledge brokers. Gail holds the 2019 Executive of the Year honor by the Florida Society of Association Executives.



Contact Ms. Siminovsky by e-mail at siminovsky@laserdentistry.org.

Disclosure: Ms. Siminovsky is a salaried employee of the Academy of Laser Dentistry. She has no other financial affiliations or personal conflicts of interest.

Directors at Large

Mountaha Al Hage, DMD | Algiers, Algeria 2021-2024

Dr. Al Hage is the medical director and head of the prosthodontic department in Clinique Dentaire Kouba in Kouba, Algeria. She is also the supervisor of all laser procedures conducted in the Clinique Dentaire Kouba and the Clinique Dentaire Internationale d'Oran, Bir El Djir, Algeria. Dr. Al Hage is chairperson of the Academy of Laser Dentistry (ALD) Affiliated Study Club of Algeria. She began using lasers in 2012 and has obtained ALD Standard Proficiency in 940-nm diode and Er,Cr:YSGG lasers. Dr. Al Hage achieved Mastership in Lasers in Dentistry from RWTH Aachen University in Germany and is a member of the World Academy for Laser Education and Research in Dentistry.



Contact Dr. Al Hage by e-mail at moonhage337@gmail.com.

Disclosure: Dr. Al Hage has reported no conflicts of interest.

Lynn Atkinson, RDH | Torrance, California 2021-2024

Lynn Atkinson has been a Registered Dental Hygienist for 30 years. She graduated from Cypress College with a degree in Dental Hygiene in 1989 and was fortunate enough to be a part of several dental teams that incorporated state-of-the-art technology. Since obtaining the Associate Fellowship Certification through the World Clinical Laser Institute (WCLI) in 1996, Lynn has been actively applying the use of dental lasers in hygiene on a daily basis. She went on to achieve the Standard Proficiency Certification through the Academy of Laser Dentistry (ALD) in 2013 and the Advanced Proficiency Certification Parts I and II in 2019. Lynn is currently practicing four days a week and is also training hygienists and dental other team members on the use of lasers along with strategies to incorporate dental lasers into their protocol with her company, Laser Focused Hygiene. She is an active member of the Academy of Laser Dentistry, the American Dental Hygienists' Association, the California Dental Hygienists' Association, and is the Hygiene Member on the Biolase Advisory Board. She serves on the ALD Board of Directors as Auxiliary Committee Chair and is involved in the testing committee.



Contact Ms. Atkinson by e-mail at laserfocusedhygiene@gmail.com.

Disclosure: Ms. Atkinson is the Hygiene Member of the Biolase Advisory Board and is a principal in Laser Focused Hygiene.

**Juliana Barros, DDS, MS | Houston, TX
2021-2024**

Dr. Barros is an Associate Professor in the Department of Restorative Dentistry and Prosthodontics at the University of Texas School of Dentistry at Houston. She serves as the Director for the Laser Dentistry Clinic, Operative Dentistry I and II. Dr. Barros earned her DDS from the University of Uberaba, Brazil, in 1995. She has postgraduate training in Restorative Dentistry from the University of Michigan School of Dentistry. In addition, she has earned a master's degree in Laser Dentistry from the Nuclear and Energy Research Institute and University of São Paulo, Brazil. Dr. Barros lectures and conducts research in the fields of restorative dentistry, biomaterials, and hard/ soft tissue laser applications. Recognizing opportunities to advance knowledge and treatment in laser dentistry, she developed the laser dentistry curriculum at UTHealth School of Dentistry at Houston and is the acting director of the laser clinic. She is a member of several organizations such as the Academy of Laser Dentistry (ALD), Academy of Operative Dentistry (AOD), International Association for Dental Research (IADR), American Dental Education Association (ADEA), and Consortium of Operative Dentistry Educators. In 2019, Dr. Barros was the recipient of the Academy of Laser Dentistry's T.H. Maiman Award for Excellence in Dental Laser Research.



Contact Dr. Barros by e-mail at Juliana.Barros@uth.tmc.edu.

Disclosure: Dr. Barros has only academic interests in further studying and understanding lasers and their interactions with biological tissues.

**Laura Braswell, DDS | Atlanta, Georgia
2019-2022**

Dr. Braswell is the owner of Buckhead Periodontics where she enjoys treating patients using alternative therapies that save teeth and enhance esthetics. She is passionate about laser periodontal therapy and works with several companies on research and development. Dr. Braswell graduated from the University of North Carolina School of Dentistry in 1982. After practicing general dentistry in Raleigh, North Carolina, she joined the faculty of the Emory University School of Dentistry and completed a four-year surgical residency in Periodontology. Dr. Braswell was an undergraduate instructor, director of the hygiene clinic, periodontal research center investigator, graduate resident faculty member, and a research faculty member at Yerkes



National Primate Research Center at Emory University. Dr. Braswell is the staff dentist for Zoo Atlanta, the Georgia Aquarium, and the Georgia State University Primate Research Laboratory. She is an adjunct faculty member in the Department of Periodontology at the Dental College of Georgia at Augusta University. Dr. Braswell is a Fellow of the American College of Dentists, the International College of Dentists, and the Pierre Fauchard Academy. She is a Diplomate of the American Academy of Periodontology, a Charter member and Master Clinician in the Academy of Laser Dentistry, and an Honorary Fellow of the American Veterinary Dental Society.

Contact Dr. Braswell by email at laurabraswelldds@gmail.com.

Disclosure: Dr. Laura Braswell has received research support from Biolase. She currently conducts research on periodontal therapy involving diode lasers.

Blake Cameron, DDS | Hyde Park, Utah 2021-2024

Dr. Cameron received his DDS degree from the Ohio State University College of Dentistry in 2012. He currently practices general dentistry in Logan, Utah. His goal is to simplify dentistry for patients by providing a wide variety of services in one convenient location. Since graduation, Dr. Cameron has received a Fellowship in the Academy of General Dentistry and the Academy of Laser Dentistry, as well as a Diplomate from the International Dental Implant Association. He loves to learn, share, and teach as he strives to help his team become their best and make dentistry easier for patients.

Contact Dr. Cameron by email at blakecamerondds@gmail.com.

Disclosure: Dr. Cameron is in private practice in Logan, Utah and has no other commercial relationships.



Nancy Fitzgerald, DMD, BSDH | Glendale, Arizona 2021-2022

Dr. Fitzgerald received her Graduate Dental Hygiene degree from the University of Minnesota in 1985. After practicing as a Dental Hygienist for almost 20 years she returned to the University of Minnesota and attained her BS in Dental Hygiene Education in 2005. Dr. Fitzgerald earned her DMD degree from Midwestern College of Dental Medicine, Glendale, Arizona, in 2012. She has practiced dentistry in both Florida and Arizona. She served as a part-time Preclinical Adjunct Faculty member for Midwestern University during 2013 - 2014, then transitioned to full-time Preclinical Assistant Professor in July 2014. Dr. Fitzgerald holds certifications in Oral Sedation Dentistry, Comprehensive Orthodontics and Craniofacial Orthopedics, Epigenetic Orthodontics with the DNA Appliance[®], Laser Dentistry, and the

Las Vegas AAID Implant Maxicourse. She is an active member of The Academy of General Dentistry, Academy of Laser Dentistry, American Dental Education Association, and an Associate Fellow of the American Academy of Implant Dentistry.

Contact Dr. Fitzgerald by e-mail at nfitzg@midwestern.edu.

Disclosure: Dr. Fitzgerald is an Assistant Professor at the Midwestern University College of Dental Medicine and has no commercial affiliations or personal conflicts of interest relative to this presentation.

* Dr. Fitzgerald is nominated to serve the last year in the seat vacated by Dr. Altayeb's nomination as an Officer.

Dr. Donald Patthoff, Editor | Martinsburg, West Virginia Journal Editor

Dr. Patthoff is a general dentist in Martinsburg, West Virginia. He was a principal research investigator at the Martinsburg VA dental clinic and is a past president of the West Virginia Dental Association and the Professional Ethics in Dentistry Network. He co-authors a dental ethics column in the Academy of General Dentistry's AGD Impact and is an ethics consultant to the American Dental Association's Council on Ethics, Bylaws and Judicial Affairs (CEBJA). He is a co- author of *Dental Ethics at Chairsides* (2018, George Washington Press). Dr. Patthoff was editor-in-chief of ALD's Journal of the Academy of Laser Dentistry and will return to that position for special issues. He chaired the dental sessions of the Engineering Conference International's (ECI's) three conferences on light-activated tissue regeneration and two on photobiomodulation for the Optical Society of America. He chairs the George Washington Institute of Living Ethics and is a liaison to the International Dental Ethics and Law Society from the American Society for Dental Ethics. Dr. Patthoff is current chair of ALD's Ethics Committee.

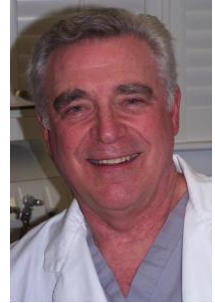


Contact Dr. Patthoff by e-mail at donaldpatthoffdds@gmail.com.

Disclosure: Dr. Patthoff is in private practice in Martinsburg, West Virginia, and has no other commercial relationships.

**Craig Sanford, DDS | Nantucket, Massachusetts
2017-2020**

Dr. Sanford graduated from Norwich University with a BS in Biology and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Army Medical Service Corps. He was a Research Assistant at the U.S. Army Institute of Dental Research at Walter Reed Army Medical Center and received his DDS from Georgetown University School of Dentistry. As a Captain in the U.S. Army Dental Corps, he completed a General Practice Residency at Irwin Army Hospital, Ft. Riley, Kansas (1st Infantry Division) and served as the Assistant Clinic Chief for the 766th Medical Detachment in Baumholder, Germany (8th Infantry Division). In addition to obtaining Standard Proficiency in diode, Er:YAG and CO₂ lasers, Dr. Sanford received Advanced Proficiency certification in Er:YAG and Mastership status from the Academy of Laser Dentistry (ALD). He is a member of the ALD Speakers Bureau and was a Faculty Member of the 2016 American Society for Laser Medicine and Surgery (ASLMS). Dr. Sanford maintained a private dental practice in Stamford, Connecticut, for 25 years until relocating to Nantucket Island for the past 10 years while integrating multiple laser wavelengths into all disciplines of General Dentistry.



Contact Dr. Sanford by e-mail at craig@sanford-dental.com.

Disclosure: Dr. Sanford owns his private practice in Nantucket and has no other commercial relationships.