

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**AAO Scholarship Recipients Complete the 2015 ADEA/AAL
Institute for Teaching and Learning**

ATLANTA, GA – For the ninth consecutive year, the American Association of Orthodontists (AAO) has provided scholarships to orthodontists, to participate in the ADEA/AAL Institute for Teaching and Learning (ITL). The Class of 2015 consisted of five AAO scholarship recipients for a total of 34 AAO ITL scholars since 2008. Created for early- and mid-career faculty and private practice dentists who are interested in academia, the ITL is an intense professional development program administered by the American Dental Education Association (ADEA) and the Academy for Academic Leadership (AAL), a US-based consultancy in health professions education.

The ADEA/AAL ITL facilitates the recruitment and retention of dental faculty by helping participants to enhance their teaching skills and develop other competencies that will increase confidence, job satisfaction, and professional growth in the academic environment.

“ADEA congratulates the AAO scholarship recipients as well as all of the other participants of the 2015 ADEA/AAL ITL,” says ADEA President and CEO Richard W. Valachovic, D.M.D., M.P.H. “Knowing how people learn and what teaching techniques work best is a continuous process and fundamental to our mission in dental education. The growth and popularity of the ADEA/AAL ITL program demonstrates the commitment of academic dental institutions and their faculty to excellence in the profession and to fostering leadership.”

The 2015 ADEA/AAL ITL class included 85 participants from dental schools and clinical institutions as well as private practices. Participants learn the skills of a master teacher from renowned experts in pedagogy, curriculum development, higher education administration and leadership. The program occurs in two-phases over six-days, with a between-phases assignment. Participants in the ADEA/AAL ITL earn 50 continuing education units.

“The ADEA/AAL ITL has 560 alumni since its launch in 2006,” says N. Karl Haden, Ph.D., President of AAL. “We’re especially proud of the achievements demonstrated by the scholarship recipients during the course of the program and look forward to the contributions

of the 2015 AAO scholars. Surveys show that the program will prepare them with teaching skills necessary to understand and communicate with today's students, and 99% of graduates report a positive or highly positive experience with the program.”

All five of the 2015 AAO scholarship recipients are pursuing promising academic careers:



Ahmed Ghoneima, Ph.D., D.D.S., M.Sc., M.S.D. is an Assistant Professor at the Indiana University School of Dentistry.



Nathan Moeller, D.D.S., M.S.D. is a Clinical Assistant Professor and the Acting Director of Clinical Operations for Orthodontics at the University of Colorado School of Dental Medicine.



Shankar Rengasamy Venugopalan, Ph.D., D.M.Sc. is an Assistant Professor at the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Dentistry.



Sreedevi Srinivasan, D.Sc. is an Assistant Professor at the The University of Iowa College of Dentistry.



Achint Utreja, Ph.D., M.S.D. is the Director of the Predoctoral Orthodontic Program at the Indiana University School of Dentistry.

In 2015, the ADEA/AAL ITL program was held at the Georgia Tech Hotel and Conference Center in Atlanta, with Phase I occurring August 20-22, and Phase II October 22-24. For more information about the ADEA/AAL ITL, visit www.aalgroup.org or call 404-350-2098.

For more information about the American Association of Orthodontists and its activities, please contact Anita Craig, AAO Director of Education and Membership Services, at acraig@aaortho.org.



AAO Scholarship Recipients at 2015 ITL

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About the American Dental Education Association

The American Dental Education Association (ADEA) is The Voice of Dental Education. Its members include all 76 U.S. and Canadian dental schools, over 800 allied and advanced dental education programs, 66 corporations and more than 20,000 individuals. The mission of ADEA is to lead institutions and individuals in the dental education community to address contemporary issues influencing education, research and the delivery of oral health care for the overall health and safety of the public. ADEA's activities encompass a wide range of research, advocacy, faculty development, meetings and communications, including the esteemed *Journal of Dental Education*, as well as the dental school admissions services ADEA AADSAS, ADEA PASS, ADEA DHCAS and ADEA CAAPID. For more information about ADEA, visit adea.org.

About AAL

Established in 2005 by Dr. N. Karl Haden, the Academy for Academic Leadership provides customized professional development and consulting services for academic healthcare

executives, educators, practitioners, institutions, and associations. AAL activities include leadership development, coaching, strategic planning, change management, team building, and curriculum development. In addition to the ADEA/AAL ITL national program, the AAL conducts the ADEA/Colgate/AAL Institute for Allied Health Educators (IAHE), the Chairs and Academic Administrators Management Program (CAAMP), and the Compass Program for Academic Advancement. In collaboration with the University of the Pacific, AAL offers a Master's Degree in Health Professions Education. For more information about AAL, the Master's degree program, ITL, IAHE, CAAMP, Compass, or other professional development programs for dental educators and administrators, please visit aalgroup.org.