

ALD Leadership

Board of Directors 2019-2020

President

Mel Burchman, DDS | Langhorne, Pennsylvania

Dr. Burchman has maintained a private dental practice in Langhorne, Pennsylvania, for 38 years. He has been using lasers for more than 18 years and has 8 lasers in his office. He has served on the Board of Directors for one 3-year term, and in numerous chairmanship positions including 2019 Conference Chair for the Annual Meeting, and as Certification Committee Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. Dr. Burchman has volunteered as a mentor and examiner for more than 15 years. In 2012, he was the honored recipient of the ALD Leon Goldman Award for Clinical Excellence. Dr. Burchman also holds ALD Mastership status.



Contact Dr. Burchman by e-mail at Mel712A@aol.com.

Disclosure: Dr. Burchman has been a speaker for Henry Schein and Sirona for which he received equipment and honoraria, and for Benco Dental for which he received equipment.

President-Elect and Chairman of 2020 Conference

Ed Kusek, DDS | Sioux Falls, South Dakota

Dr. Kusek graduated from the University of Nebraska College of Dentistry in 1984. He has served 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.

Treasurer and Chairman of 2021 Conference

Arun Darbar, BDS, DGDG (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 low-level laser therapy (LLLT) 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.

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.

Secretary

Samuel B. Low, DDS, MS, MEd | Gainesville, 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.

Immediate Past President

Raminta Mastis, DDS | St. Clair Shores, Michigan

Dr. Mastis graduated from the University of Illinois College of Dentistry in 1987. She maintains a private dental practice, Michigan Cosmetic and Laser Dentistry, in St. Clair Shores, Michigan. Raminta previously served in each Officer role as ALD President 2018, President-Elect 2017, Vice President 2016, Treasurer 2015 and Secretary in 2014. Prior to her service as an Officer, Dr. Mastis served as Co-Chair of Certification and Education Committees, Chair of Laser Safety and Communications Committees, and was the 2014 General & Scientific Sessions Chair of the Annual Meeting. Dr. Mastis has been using lasers since 2000, and has 18 lasers of various wavelengths in her practice. She holds ALD Standard Proficiency certifications in Er:YAG, diode, Er,Cr:YSGG, and CO₂ laser wavelengths, and has achieved ALD Advanced Proficiency in the Er:YAG wavelength. In addition to laser dentistry, her practice is focused on implant surgery



and restoration, laser dentistry, esthetic and cosmetic dentistry, and integration of advanced technologies into practice. Dr. Mastis also holds ALD Mastership status.

Contact Dr. Mastis by e-mail at milaserdentist@comcast.net.

Disclosure: Dr. Mastis owns her private practice in St. Clair Shores and has no other commercial relationships.

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 graduated from the State University of New York in Binghamton, 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.



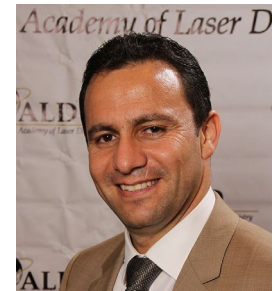
Contact Ms. Siminovsky by e-mail at siminovsky@laserdentistry.org.

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

Walid Altayeb, DDS | Dohar, Qatar, and Private Practice, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates (UAE) 2016-2019; 2019 – 2022

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 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 drealtayeb@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.

**Heather Angers, RDH | Lakewood, Colorado
2018-2021**

Heather Angers has been a registered Dental Hygienist in Colorado since 2009. She started using an 810-nm diode laser at that time. Since then she has obtained both the Standard and Advanced Proficiencies through the Academy of Laser Dentistry. Heather is a member of the ALD, American Dental Hygienists' Association (ADHA), and an auxiliary member of the International Congress of Implantologists. Her passion in lasers started when she was a dental assistant when she saw how they had changed the way her dentist at the time treated patients. Heather has taken that same passion into her dental hygiene career. She plans to continue to learn from the excellent sources available from the ALD and also hopes to become a course provider so she can pass that same expertise to the coming generations of laser dental hygienists.



Contact Ms. Angers by e-mail at hmangers1@yahoo.com.

Disclosure: Heather receives modest compensation from Forward Science for selling the OralID™ oral cancer screening device, SalivaMAX™ artificial saliva, and other products offered by them.

**Laura Braswell, DDS | Buckhead Periodontics | 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 e-mail at laurabraswelldds@gmail.com.

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

Keith Brewster, DDS | Dallas, Texas
2015-18; 2018-2021

Dr. Brewster graduated from Baylor College of Dentistry in 1984. He has continued his education with advanced training in orthodontics, CEREC, 3D imaging, cosmetic dentistry, occlusion, TMJ, and implant surgery. He holds Standard Proficiency certification in both Er:YAG and Nd:YAG laser wavelengths and achieved ALD Fellowship honors. Dr. Brewster serves as co-chair of Regulatory Affairs and previously of ALD's Laser Safety Committee. He practices general dentistry in downtown Dallas.



Contact Dr. Brewster by e-mail at drkbrewster@sbcglobal.net.

Disclosure: Dr. Brewster has received modest compensation from Sirona for individual meetings to perform live guided dental implant placement with digital crown design surgeries. He is a lecturer for Dental Aim.

Charles M. Carpenter, DMD | Forty Fort, Pennsylvania
2017-2020

Dr. Carpenter is a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine. He has been in private practice for over 40 years. He is a member of the Luzerne County Dental Society, Pennsylvania Dental Association, and the ADA. He has a Fellowship in the Academy of General Dentistry, Fellowship in the Academy of Laser Dentistry, and Masters in the World Clinical Laser Institute (WCLI). Dr. Carpenter is a member of the International College of Dentists, College of Dentistry International, and the American College of Dentists. In 2017, Dr. Carpenter was inducted to the Pierre Faucard Academy as a fellow. He has received advanced training in cosmetic dentistry at LVI. He is also a retired Colonel in the U.S. Army where he served as commander of the 300th Field Hospital and commander of the 317th Dental Company.



Contact Dr. Carpenter by e-mail at cmc22dmd@epix.net.

Disclosure: Dr. Carpenter owns his private practice in Forty Fort and has no other commercial relationships.

James Carreiro, DMD | Largo, Florida
2016-2019; 2019-2022

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.

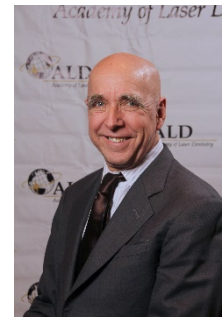


Contact Dr. Carreiro by e-mail at carreirojs@hotmail.com.

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.

**Dr. Donald Patthoff, Editor | Martinsburg, West Virginia
Journal Editor, appointed 2019**

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.

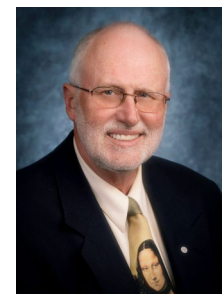


Contact Dr. Patthoff by e-mail at donaldpatthoffdds@gmail.com.

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

**Gerald Ross, DDS | Tottenham, Ontario, Canada
2015-2018; 2018-2021**

Dr. Ross has been in General Practice in Tottenham, Ontario, since 1971. He has used surgical lasers since 1992 and photobiomodulation since 1993. He holds Advanced Proficiency from the Academy of Laser Dentistry (ALD), is Chair of ALD's 2019 General and Scientific Sessions Committee and an advisor to the Membership Committee. Dr. Ross has presented more than 200 lectures in North America and internationally, has published 10 articles, has written chapters in 2 laser textbooks, and is a peer reviewer for 4 laser journals. In 2016, he received ALD's Leon Goldman Award for Clinical Excellence. He also holds Fellowship status with the American Society for Laser Medicine and Surgery (ASLMS).

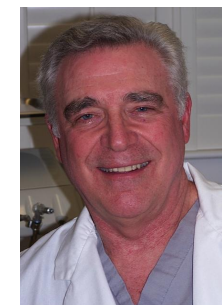


Contact Dr. Ross by e-mail at ddsross@rogers.com.

Disclosure: Dr. Ross receives modest compensation for lecturing for Zolar lasers and their distributors.

**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.

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

Grace Sun, DDS | Los Angeles, California
2014-2017; 2017-2020

Dr. Sun graduated from the University of Southern California School of Dentistry in 1981. She maintains a full-time comprehensive cosmetic practice and dental laboratory in the Beverly Hills, California, area. She was the first female Accredited Fellow in the American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry (AACD). Dr. Sun advocates education and currently serves on the AACD Professional Education Committee. Dr. Sun is certified as a Master and Educator of the Academy of Laser Dentistry, and was a member of the Board of Directors from 2003 - 2006. She lectures internationally for dental laser education, and was most recently awarded Mastership status in the International Congress of Oral Implantologists in Hamburg, Germany. Dr. Sun has been highly regarded in the fields of dental ceramics, cosmetic, laser, prosthodontic, orthodontic, and implant dentistry for over three decades. Her patient care philosophy also incorporates orofacial myofunctional therapy.



Contact Dr. Sun by e-mail at DrSun@sundds.com.

Disclosure: Dr. Sun owns her private practice Sun Dental Group in Los Angeles and has no other commercial relationships.