

Jacksonville University

School of Orthodontics

1 Year Fellowship in Orthodontic Clinical Research

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1 Year Fellowship in Orthodontic Clinical Research

Overview of the Fellowship

The Jacksonville University School of Orthodontics is offering a full time, one year Fellowship in Orthodontic Clinical Research. This Fellowship is not recognized by the Commission on Dental Accreditation however Fellows who successfully complete the Fellowship will be awarded 1500 CEU's (continuing education units) recognized on a state by state basis for maintenance of their professional licensure. The didactic material is geared towards broadening and enhancing a Fellow's background thus helping to prepare them for matriculation into an ADA accredited residency program in orthodontics. We plan to initiate the Fellowship with placement of between 4 to 7 Fellows for the upcoming year. Fellows will participate in a diverse didactic and clinical orthodontic experience. Course work will include but is not limited to orthodontic record-taking, record-keeping, data basing, orthodontic diagnosis and treatment planning, and exposure to various clinical orthodontic theoretical, diagnostic, and therapeutic treatment philosophies and regimens. Fellows will shadow current JU orthodontic residents in the clinic, assist them in a variety of chairside experiences, and treat a given patient load. The research emphasis will be placed on supporting the ongoing in vivo and in vitro clinical research projects at JU. We expect our Fellows to become proficient with the necessary tools for conducting clinical orthodontic research, e.g.-study design, biostatistics, data collection, data entry, and data analysis. In addition, Fellows will be required to participate in collecting clinical research data, assist in preparing and expanding our clinical research database, and helping to develop teaching modules for orthodontic continuing education. Throughout the Fellowship, participants will gain experience with orthodontic practice management software, orthodontic diagnostic and case presentation software, imaging software, cone-beam computed tomography, digital photography and radiography, as well as exposure to a variety of orthodontic appliances and techniques including temporary anchorage devices in orthodontic practice.

Director of Fellowship

Marc Bernard Ackerman, D.M.D. is a 3rd generation orthodontist, having practiced in Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania for over 7 years. Currently he is an Associate Professor and is the Coordinator of Evidence-Based Orthodontic Education in the School of Orthodontics at Jacksonville University. Dr. Ackerman is a Diplomate of the American Board of Orthodontics, a member of the Edward H. Angle Society of Orthodontists and a Fellow in the College of Physicians of Philadelphia. He has published numerous peer-reviewed papers in orthodontic journals. Dr. Ackerman was a co-recipient of the 2004 B.F. and Helen Dewel Award from the American Journal of Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics for the best clinical paper of the previous year. He has lectured extensively in the United States and Europe. He is also the Chief Scientific Officer for Scientific Compliance located in Atlanta, GA. Dr. Ackerman's textbook, "Enhancement Orthodontics: Theory and Practice" (Blackwell Publishing) was released in May 2007.

Fellow Responsibilities

The position of Fellow carries several key responsibilities:

- 1) To develop an individualized program of self-study and professional growth with guidance from the Jacksonville University School of Orthodontics faculty.
- 2) To assist with the provision safe, effective and compassionate patient care, commensurate with the Fellow's level of competence, under the supervision of appropriately credentialed attending faculty.
- 3) To engage in selected seminars and demonstrate successful comprehension of selected topics culled from the curriculum of the JU School of Orthodontics.
- 4) To adhere to the established practices, procedures, policies and rules of Jacksonville University as well as all related State mandated statutory requirements, both clinical and administrative.
- 5) To understand the clinical, socioeconomic, and ethical issues related to performing clinical research and delivering patient care in both the academic and private practice milieu.

Clinic Attire

All personnel working on the clinic floor are subject to the operating policies regarding the use of personal protective equipment as mandated by OSHA. In addition Fellows are expected to dress in a professional manner when present in the clinic whether or not they are working on patients. Clinical Gowns, masks and eyewear must be worn when providing specific types of patient care. Scrubs may be worn when performing clinical activities. If scrubs are not utilized men must wear a shirt and tie, women shall be professionally attired. Scrub tops may be worn with slacks. Examples of inappropriate attire are jeans, cargo pants, mini-skirts, see-thru blouses, shorts, open toed shoes, etc. Foot ware and clothing must be of a type and style that is consistent with a professional demeanor as patients may not be able to distinguish between students who are involved in patient care from those who may be working on non-clinical projects and therefore may form inaccurate perceptions concerning infection control, cleanliness, competence, professionalism, etc. solely based on the appearance of those students who are dressed in unprofessional attire. What is appropriate shall be at the sole discretion of the programmatic administration; those students dressed inappropriately will be asked to leave the clinic.

Decorum and Comportment

Interpersonal relations among all clinic personnel are to be professional at all times while in the clinic. Having social personal relationships with clinic patients or staff is highly discouraged. Overt prejudice of any type will not be tolerated. Any interpersonal problems between any clinic personnel that cannot be readily resolved should be brought to the immediate attention of first, an administrative supervisor and then if necessary, the human resources liaison for the School of Orthodontics.

Policy on Student Behavior

The University Handbook provides policy on this issue however the School of Orthodontics has, in addition, its own standards concerning professional behavior that applies to its post graduate students and Fellows alike. We maintain a zero tolerance policy regarding the following issues:

CHEATING: Defined as using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, or assistance of any type during any academic or clinical exercises. Cheating in any form will not be tolerated and academic and disciplinary sanctions will be sought.

FABRICATION: Defined as falsification, reproduction, plagiarism, deliberate lack of attribution, or the inventing of any information or citation during any academic or clinical exercise. Fabrication, like cheating, will result in the academic and disciplinary actions being sought.

FALSIFICATION OF CLINIC RECORDS AND DOCUMENTS: Defined as intentionally creating inaccuracies or representations of fact or clinical finding relating to the care of any clinic patient. This applies to clinical and administrative data and material. Falsification may result in the seeking of appropriate sanctions from the University, State Licensing Agencies, as well as notification of that student/fellow's conduct to appropriate Professional Societies.

THREATENING BEHAVIOR TOWARDS OTHERS: Defined as the use of profanity, threats of physical harm, verbal intimidation, or sexual harassment that has a tendency to create a hostile environment for others. University policy will dictate the sanctions to be sought.

THEFT OR DAMAGE TO PROPERTY OF OTHERS: Intentional or neglectful behavior that damages university property or the property of others will subject the Fellow to suspension or dismissal from the Fellowship. In addition, theft or unauthorized "borrowing" of another's property will not be tolerated and in addition to university sanctions, criminal sanctions may be sought.

ABANDONMENT, DELAY IN, OR NEGLECT OF A PATIENT'S TREATMENT: Defined as the failure to provide timely and continuous treatment to any assigned patient. Negligent behavior regarding making and/or keeping scheduled appointments, failure to follow or monitor a patient's treatment, or failure to arrange for or accept a patient transfer, fall into this category. Appropriate academic and disciplinary sanctions will be sought for those who violate this policy.

PERFORMING PATIENT CARE WHILE IMPAIRED: Defined as behaving, appearing, or being under the influence of drugs or alcohol that has the potential to limit or interfere with the ability to safely handle instruments, equipment or to provide patient care. Appropriate sanctions may include suspension or dismissal from the Fellowship.

SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT: Defined as any conduct that significantly deviates from generally accepted standards for proposing, conducting, and publishing research as commonly practiced within our profession. Academic and administrative sanctions will be sought against violators.

LYING: Defined as intentionally creating inaccuracies or misrepresentations of fact either orally or in writing. This applies to clinical and administrative activities between students, Fellows, faculty, patients, and staff.

Behavior constituting the above topics cannot and will not be tolerated. If a Fellow is found to have engaged in any of these activities, academic and/or disciplinary sanctions will be sought, either of which may result in dismissal from the Fellowship.

Conditions of Enrollment

Upon matriculation, the candidate must provide a copy of their DDS or DMD degree awarded from their University. Foreign Fellows must present an equivalent doctoral degree. In addition, final dental school transcripts, proof of Basic Life Support certification, and copies of all current state dental licenses must be provided. The Fellow is responsible for conforming to any state requirements regarding obtaining any permits required to engage in the Fellowship.

The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) is federal legislation designed in part to improve the privacy of personal health information. Compliance involves taking a required in-house training course and signing a confidentiality agreement.

Full HIPAA compliance ensures that patients and their families have the privacy of their health information and their medical records protected. HIPAA rules provide clear standards for protecting personal health information recorded or transmitted on paper, e-mail, and the computer and/or telephone, including billing records and fund transfers. They also prohibit individuals from looking into patient records without a well-defined professional reason and place limitations on who can access such records. Our clinical department and units related to business operations ensure that all of their systems, security measures, and procedures meet HIPAA requirements. HIPAA includes civil or criminal penalties for those who violate patients' privacy rights. Additionally, if you are found to be in violation on this law, appropriate disciplinary action may be taken up to and including dismissal. All Fellows must sign a statement agreeing to maintain the confidentiality of patient's health information.

Leave and Moonlighting Policy

Fellows have the responsibility to keep the Fellowship Director informed of all leave. Fellows will have the same leave allowances and will be entitled to observe all official holidays designated by Jacksonville University for faculty, staff and students.

Fellows are required to be present at School of Orthodontics Monday through Friday in order to attend to their scheduled activities. At times this may involve lunch time seminars as well as weekend courses. The Jacksonville University School of Orthodontics clinic is closed Friday afternoons however the school remains open for administrative and research activities.

Fellows may practice general dentistry outside the Jacksonville University School of Orthodontics on weekends if they are licensed in the State of Florida. However, Fellows may make no claims in their practice that they are certified or are in the process of becoming certified in orthodontics. Any false statements, advertising or marketing concerning this issue will result in immediate dismissal from the Fellowship.

Fellowship Completion and Academic Evaluation

Fellows who successfully complete the educational, research, administrative and clinical requirements of the Fellowship, will receive a certificate of "Fellowship in Clinical Orthodontic Research. Fellows will be required to prepare an in-depth report, describing in detail their Fellowship experiences; and present a Microsoft Powerpoint presentation of their experience for presentation to the faculty.

JU recognizes that an orthodontic fellowship represents a unique continuing education opportunity for dentists. For that reason, we believe that competition for grades or class ranking is counterproductive to the educational process. Fellows will be evaluated as having performed at the level of honors (exemplary), acceptable (passing), and unacceptable (failing). We encourage Fellows to devote their time to learning and understanding orthodontics and clinical orthodontic research in a more global context as opposed to learning specific and itemized snippets of information and attempting to apply them to the myriad of clinical settings or research activities. Our only objective is to make every Fellow better positioned to, in the future, successfully matriculate into an accredited orthodontic residency program. We will do this by providing the necessary clinical, didactic, and research experiences that will enrich the Fellow's curriculum vitae and orthodontic knowledge base. We will also provide an appropriate letter of recommendation based on their performance.

It is our hope that dentists who successfully complete our one year Fellowship will seriously consider applying to the Jacksonville University Accredited Orthodontic Post Graduate Program. In turn, we will acknowledge the value added experience they derived from having successfully completed our Fellowship as noted in their application.

Stipend / Tuition

For the 2008-2009 academic year, the clinic usage and administrative fees for this Fellowship is \$12,000 and the associated educational supplies required to enroll are estimated to be between \$2,500 and \$3,500. Fellows will be required to pay for any travel expenses, living expenses, and any costs associated with extramural continuing education courses offered outside of the fellowship position.