Orthodontic Faculty Development Fellowship Awards

Dr. Kiho “Kyle” Lee, University of California Los Angeles

Dr. Kiho “Kyle” Lee is an Assistant Professor and serves as the Co-Director of the Post-Graduate Orthodontic Clinic and the International Orthodontic Programs in the Section of Orthodontics at UCLA School of Dentistry. He earned his Certificate in the specialty of Orthodontics, as well as a Master of Science in Oral Biology at UCLA School of Dentistry.

Dr. Lee’s current project remains focused on investigating the dental and skeletal effects of a novel Mini-Implant Assisted Rapid Palatal Expander (MARPE) in early treatment group and late treatment group through the use of Cone Beam Computed Tomography (CBCT) analysis. MARPE is a new technique in rapid palatal expansion where mini-implants are used to fixate the expansion appliance to the maxillary palatal bones delivering a force directly to the palatal bones to create more skeletal expansion. Orthodontic patients requiring MARPE are grouped into an early or later treatment group according to their Cervical Vertebral Maturation Stage (CVMS). CBCTs are taken for initial records (T0), immediately after expansion (T1), and 6 months after expansion is complete (T2). Skeletal versus dental effects are measured between T0, T1 and T2, and between groups.

With the Orthodontic Faculty Development Fellowship Award, Dr. Lee will be able to find the novelty of MARPE that will overcome the limitations of a traditional tooth-anchored expansion appliance. If the use of MARPE allows more skeletal than dental expansion in older individual where interdigitation of the sutures would prevent skeletal expansion, this will potentially eliminate the need for surgical intervention and establish a secure and stable correction of maxillary constriction in adult orthodontic patients.

Dr. Lee plans to establish himself as an exceptional orthodontic educator and a scientist in clinical orthodontics. The support of the American Association of Orthodontics Foundation provides vital resources for Dr. Lee to develop the necessary teaching and research skills to achieve his career goals.