

AAO FOUNDATION AWARDS
FINAL REPORT

Principal Investigator Dennis C. Beeson, D.D.S., M.S.

Co-Investigator

Secondary Investigator

Award Type Orthodontic Faculty Development Fellowship

Title of Project Orthodontic Management Software for the University
Environment: Where to Start?

Project Year 2006

Name of Institution Case Western Reserve University

Brief Summary The AAOF Faculty Development Fellowship Award provided me the opportunity to study an orthodontic software program (OrthoII) and to implement it fully in our department. Selected department heads and clinic directors were surveyed about their methods of categorizing and cataloging final cases. Taking samples from a few orthodontic departments, a series of clinical findings and a series of treatment findings were developed to be used as a searchable data base for future research. In addition, work was initiated on the collection of data and designing reports and histories. A full implementation of the orthodontic management program also requires unique scheduling needs for the university setting, as well as development of custom letters.

The software vendor hosted two meetings that provided an opportunity to network with other orthodontic departments that are currently using this program. In addition, I hosted several focus groups of interested orthodontists, clinic directors, orthodontic residents, and computer software representatives. We discussed establishing a searchable data base which could be shared among the orthodontic schools.

Implementation of the software has taken a year. During this time, I have absorbed a wealth of information and now act as the department spokesperson to help other departments set up or improve their own programs. If ideas are easily shared among departments, prior modifications of the software to the unique university setting could be easily viewed and shared. This can be done among interested schools either directly or through the software vendor. I appreciate the AAOF, fellow orthodontists, and my department at CWRU, all of which provide the support that allows me to work on this project.