

For Immediate Release

**DR. BRENT E. LARSON, UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA PROFESSOR AND
ROCHESTER ORTHODONTIST, ELECTED PRESIDENT OF
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF ORTHODONTISTS**

ST. LOUIS, May 8, 2018 – Brent E. Larson, DDS, MS, Professor and Director of the Division of Orthodontics at the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry, and who maintains a private orthodontic practice in Rochester, Minnesota, has been elected the 2018-19 president of the [American Association of Orthodontists](#) (AAO), the world’s oldest and largest dental specialty organization with more than 19,000 members. The announcement was recently made at the AAO’s 2018 Annual Session in Washington, D.C.

“It’s truly a privilege to help lead this outstanding organization,” Dr. Larson said. “Our prime focus at the AAO is supporting our members so that they are able to serve their patients. Through research, continuing education, consumer education and advocacy at the federal and state levels, the AAO supports its members as they make the dream of a healthy, beautiful smile a reality for millions of people.”

Dr. Larson graduated Summa Cum Laude from Gustavus Adolphus College in 1978, earning a bachelor’s degree in chemistry. He earned his DDS from the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry in 1981, graduating first in his dental school class; he received the Alpha Omega Scholarship Award for that achievement.

Following dental school, Dr. Larson spent nine years in the U.S. Air Force. He completed a general practice residency in dentistry at Sheppard Air Force Base in Texas, and served as a general dentist at Plattsburgh Air Force Base in New York, and later, after becoming an orthodontist, as chief of orthodontics and quality assurance coordinator at Torrejon Air Base in Spain.

Dr. Larson is a 1987 graduate of the orthodontic residency program at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where he earned his certificate and master’s degree in orthodontics.

Prior to joining the faculty of the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry, Dr. Larson was the orthodontic program director at the Mayo Clinic and assistant professor in the Department of Dental Specialties at the Mayo Medical School.

Dr. Larson joined the AAO Board of Trustees in 2009 as the representative of the Midwestern Society of Orthodontists (MSO), an organization serving orthodontists in Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin and the Canadian province of Manitoba. He was the AAO secretary-treasurer for 2016-17, and served as the 2017-18 president-elect.

Throughout his career, Dr. Larson has been actively involved in organized dentistry and orthodontics, including service as a site visitor for the Commission on Dental Accreditation for Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics. He is a past president of the Minnesota Association of Orthodontists and the MSO, and is a past MSO delegation chair to the AAO House of Delegates. Dr. Larson chaired the AAO Task Force on Orthodontic Faculty Recruitment and Retention. In addition, he is a past chair of the AAO Council on Information Technology, the AAO Council on Orthodontic Education and the AAO Foundation Planning and Awards Review Committee.

Dr. Larson has served as educational liaison to the editorial board of the *American Journal of Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics (AJO-DO)*. He spent 15 years as a reviewer and synopsis writer for *Practical Reviews in Orthodontics*, a monthly literature review publication distributed around the world.

Dr. Larson's scholarly articles have been published in a variety of refereed journals, including the *AJO-DO*, writing on clinical and educational topics, and more recently on 3D imaging and orthodontic treatment outcomes. He lectures around the U.S. and around the world on advances in clinical orthodontics, the application of technology to improve patient care and orthodontic educational issues.

Dr. Larson is a member of many orthodontic and dental organizations including the AAO, the MSO, the Minnesota Association of Orthodontists (MAO), the College of Diplomates of the American Board of Orthodontics, the World Federation of Orthodontists, the American Dental Association, the Minnesota Dental Association and the Zumbro Valley Dental Society. He is a Fellow of both the American College of Dentists and the International College of Dentists, and a Diplomate of the American Board of Orthodontics (ABO). Dr. Larson is a member of the International Association for Dental Research, the American Association for Dental Research, and the American Dental Education Association.

Dr. Larson is the 2018 recipient of the Louise Ada Jarabak Memorial International Teachers and Research Award, presented by the American Association of Orthodontists Foundation. Past awards include the Distinguished Dental Alumni Award from the University of Minnesota, the MAO's Fredsall Distinguished Service Award, the Earl E. Shepard Award of

Distinction from the ABO for the highest achievement on the written board exam, and Teacher of the Year, Department of Dental Specialties Mayo Clinic, which recognized him for four consecutive years. He is an inductee of the Mayo Clinic Teachers' Hall of Fame.

Dr. Larson and his wife, Cindy, are residents of Roseville, Minnesota. He has three sons, Matt, Andy and Chad, two of whom are also orthodontists, and four grandchildren. He enjoys a variety of sports and spending time with the family "at the lake" in northern Minnesota.

####

About the American Association of Orthodontists

Members of the American Association of Orthodontists (AAO) help children, teenagers and adults achieve healthy, beautiful smiles.

Orthodontists are uniquely qualified specialists who diagnose, prevent and treat dental and facial irregularities to correctly align teeth and jaws. Orthodontists receive an additional two-to-three academic years of specialized education beyond dental school at an accredited orthodontic residency program. Only orthodontists qualify for AAO membership.

Founded in 1900, the AAO is the world's oldest and largest dental specialty organization. It represents nearly 19,000 orthodontist members throughout the United States, Canada and abroad. The AAO encourages and sponsors key research to enable its members to provide the highest quality of care to patients, and is committed to educating the public about the need for, and benefits of, orthodontic treatment.

For more information about the AAO, the benefits of orthodontic care, and to find nearby AAO orthodontists, visit aaoinfo.org.

Media Contact:

Pam Paladin
American Association of Orthodontists
314-993-1700, ext. 524
ppaladin@aaortho.org