

Donors endorse Foundation's progress with major gifts

Dr. A. Thomas Indresano has witnessed the evolution of the OMS Foundation firsthand from the vantage point of academia, making time during his career as a professor of oral and maxillofacial surgery to serve as a Foundation Director in 1992-94 and again in 2010-12. As an AAOMS Trustee, newly retired from the OMS department chairmanship at the University of the Pacific School of Dentistry, he helped craft and implement the Foundation's Strategic Alliance with AAOMS.

As his term as AAOMS President neared its conclusion in September, Dr. Indresano and his wife, Rita, decided to increase their R.V. Walker Society commitment to \$100,000.

"It's gratifying to see the Foundation realizing its potential at last," Dr. Indresano said, "Rita and I are so appreciative of the

value that it brings to the specialty. We agreed that a substantial commitment to the R.V. Walker Society was a worthy legacy; we're confident that it will be money well spent."

Like the Indresanos, Dr. Colin Bell and his wife, Susan, are among the Foundation's most steadfast donors. The Bells made their first gift in 1985 and have contributed nearly \$50,000 since, mostly via recurring monthly donations.

Dr. and Mrs. Bell announced in October their commitment to a \$100,000 gift to the OMS Foundation, including an increase of their R.V. Walker Society commitment to \$100,000.

"Susan and I feel privileged to be part of the OMS family," Dr. Bell said.

"We recognize the critical role of research and education in preserving the preeminence of our specialty, and we enthusiastically support the mission and programs of the OMS Foundation."

Both Dr. Indresano and Dr. Bell have devoted their careers to educating the next generation of OMSs and can attest to the impact of the Foundation's programs.

"Those first few years in academia are critical," said Dr. Indresano. "I can't overstate the importance of FEDA (Faculty Educator Development Award) grants in keeping our best educators in academia, and the Foundation's Research Support Grants provide a much-needed funding alternative to NIH."

Foundation Chair Mr. William Passolt commended the vision and leadership of the Indresanos and Bells, saying "The generosity of these families is exemplary, and their gifts will have a lasting impact on the specialty. Drs. Indresano and Bell consistently championed education as teachers and donors during AAOMS's first century. With their gifts, they've helped to underwrite research and education opportunities for the next generation of practitioners and educators." ■



Dr. A. Thomas and Rita Indresano



Dr. Colin and Susan Bell



Featured Donors: Dr. Jeff and Lisa Wallen

"The profession of oral and maxillofacial surgery has been very good to us and we can think of no better way to 'give back' than to support the OMS Foundation."

"We believe that quality research and education are essential to preserving the profession for the benefit of future surgeons and the patients whom they will serve."

"After exploring multiple options, we settled on Treloar & Heisel's new whole-life insurance program to upgrade our R.V. Walker Society

commitment. We didn't need an attorney, the application process was streamlined and efficient, and the premium is fully tax deductible. Plus, the policy offers immediate cash value to the Foundation should that ever become a priority. We strongly encourage all AAOMS members to support the Foundation and to consider this new planned giving opportunity."

– Dr. Jeff and Lisa Wallen

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Contact us

info@omsfoundation.org
 OMSFoundation.org
 847-233-4304