



SPRING MEETING • FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 2026

Evolving Paradigms in Mucogingival Reconstruction

The Times Center • 242 W 41st. Street, New York



Dr. Avila-Ortiz



Dr. Shayan Barootchi



Dr. E. Todd Scheyer

The Northeastern Society of Periodontists is proud to present our 2026 Spring Meeting, themed ***“Evolving Paradigms in Mucogingival Reconstruction.”*** This timely and engaging topic will examine the different aspects of mucogingival surgery, including historical perspectives, current therapies and potential prospects for the future. The goals of this component of periodontal therapy have always been to enhance and strengthen the soft tissue environment of the gingival supporting structures. This has led to increasing zones of attached tissue for gingival stability, enhanced esthetic outcomes and the evolution into periodontal plastic surgery techniques.

Our morning session will be the exclusive domain of Dr. Gustavo Avila-Ortiz who will begin our day with his lecture, ***“Critical Issues on Periodontal and Implant-Related Mucogingival Surgery.”*** This lecture will include a current overview of soft tissue deformities on both teeth and implants along with key principles related to the various aspects of soft tissue characteristics encountered in clinical practice. Ultimately it will provide the clinician with the tools necessary to enhance clinical decision making and therapeutic measures.

In the afternoon we will continue with the mucogingival theme by welcoming Dr. Shayan Barootchi with his lecture, ***“Flap Design Evolutions in Periodontal and Peri-Implant Plastic Surgery: From Tradition to Innovation.”*** This lecture will guide the audience through the recent history in flap development and all of the prerequisite aspects to merge surgical precision with biologic respect. This will include illustrated clinical cases for adapting flap design based on predictable surgical principles utilized on a daily basis.

Our final presentation will be given by Dr. E. Todd Scheyer which will be ***“Evolution of Soft Tissue Alternatives to the Gold Standard in Mucogingival Surgery: 25 Year Retrospective Analysis.”*** He will review an evidence-based approach

(continued on page 2)

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- 8:00 – 9:00 AM • Registration and Exhibits**
Coffee is available in the upper and lower lobby levels
- 9:00 – 10:15 AM • Dr. Gustavo Avila-Ortiz, “Critical Issues on Periodontal and Implant-Related Mucogingival Surgery” Part 1**
- 10:15 – 10:45 AM • Visit with Exhibitors & Coffee Break**
- 10:45 – 12:00 PM • Dr. Gustavo Avila-Ortiz, “Critical Issues on Periodontal and Implant-Related Mucogingival Surgery” Part 2**
- 12:00 – 1:30 PM • Lunch**
A Buffet Lunch will be available to Registered Attendees
- 1:30 – 2:45 PM • Dr. Shayan Barootchi, “Flap Design Evolutions in Periodontal and Peri-implant Plastic Surgery: From Tradition to Innovation”**
- 2:45 – 4:00 PM • Dr. Todd Scheyer, “Evolution of Soft Tissue Alternatives to the Gold Standard in Mucogingival Surgery: A 25 Year Retrospective Analysis”**

to materials and clinical techniques historically utilized with an emphasis on comparisons to current therapeutic measures. Clinical outcomes focusing on regeneration of soft and hard tissues will be imparted for practical clinical utilization.

DR. GUSTAVO AVILA-ORTIZ will present *“Critical Issues on Periodontal and Implant-Related Mucogingival Surgery.”* This educational program is designed to provide a comprehensive and up-to-date overview of the treatment of soft tissue deformities surrounding teeth and dental implants within the context of contemporary dentistry. The course will cover key principles related to the diagnosis, classification, prognosis, and treatment of various periodontal and peri-implant soft tissue deformities, as well as principles of flap design and management to achieve predictable outcomes. Special emphasis will be placed on discussing the biological and structural characteristics, as well as the indications, of different types of autogenous grafts and allogeneic or xenogeneic substitutes. The ultimate goal of this course is to equip participants with a solid foundation of knowledge to support clinical decision-making and enhance the effectiveness of mucogingival therapy in daily practice.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

- Understand the key differences between periodontal and peri-implant tissues.
- Identify the different types of soft tissue deformities affecting periodontal and peri-implant sites, as well as therapeutic options for their correction.
- Understand the biological and structural characteristics, as well as the indications for various types of autogenous grafts and allogeneic or xenogeneic substitutes.
- Learn the fundamental principles of flap design and management in the context of mucogingival surgical therapy.

DR. SHAYAN BAROOTCHI will present *“Flap Design Evolutions in Periodontal and Peri-Implant Plastic Surgery: From Tradition to Innovation.”* Dr. Barootchi is an Assistant Professor of Periodontology at Harvard School of Dental Medicine and an Adjunct Clinical Assistant Professor at the University of Michigan. An internationally recognized leader in periodontal and peri-implant plastic surgery, his work spans basic science, translational research, and clinical trials, with more than 150 peer-reviewed publications. Dr. Barootchi has pioneered minimally invasive techniques, advanced diagnostic tools, and novel surgical approaches for soft tissue grafting. He has received numerous national and international awards, including several from the AAP and AAP Foundation such as the prestigious Balint Orban Clinical Research Award, the Earl Robinson Periodontal Regeneration Award, and The

AAP Foundation Schorr Research Award for best scientific manuscript of the year, among many others. He also serves as Associate Editor for the Journal of Periodontal Research, as well as Clinical Implant Dentistry and Related Research. He lectures globally on esthetic implant therapy and soft tissue regeneration around teeth and implants.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

- Review the historical progression of flap designs in periodontal and peri-implant surgery and understand the rationale behind traditional approaches.
- Recognize the biological principles that guide modern flap designs, including blood supply preservation, tension-free closure, and papilla maintenance.
- Identify key considerations for flap design in esthetic zones versus posterior regions.
- Evaluate how innovations such as magnification, microsurgical instrumentation, and emerging materials influence flap execution and healing.
- Integrate contemporary flap design concepts into clinical decision-making to optimize both regenerative and plastic surgical outcomes.

Over the past few decades, flap design in periodontal and peri-implant plastic surgery has undergone a significant evolution, from foundational approaches rooted in traditional principles to modern strategies that embrace minimally invasive techniques, and biologically driven planning. This lecture explores how these transformations have influenced both clinical outcomes and decision-making, with a focus on preserving vascularity, optimizing soft tissue architecture, and enhancing esthetics.

Attendees will be guided through key milestones in flap development, including the rationale behind classic incisions, the rise of microsurgical and tunneled approaches, and emerging paradigms that merge surgical precision with biologic respect. Clinical cases will be used to illustrate how adapting flap design based on anatomy, biotype, and therapeutic goals can result in more predictable and esthetic outcomes around both teeth and implants.

DR. E. TODD SCHEYER attended dental school at The Medical College of Virginia at Virginia Commonwealth University from which he graduated Magna Cum Laude, earning clinical and research awards. Dr. Scheyer received his Certificate in Periodontics, Conscious Sedation, and a master’s degree from the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio and School of Biomedical Science, clinically focusing on Periodontal Regeneration.

Dr. Scheyer was awarded the John F. Pritchard Award for graduate research in February 2001. Dr. Scheyer was awarded

both the American Academy of Periodontology (AAP) Clinical Research Award and the Robinson Regeneration Award in 2010 and 2017. He is a Diplomate of the American Board of Periodontology.

Dr. Scheyer has and currently serves as an officer and committee member for many outstanding dental organizations. He has served as Senior District 5 Trustee for the AAP and is Past President of the Southwest Society of Periodontists, the Texas Society of Periodontists and the Houston Society of Periodontists.

He is in private practice limited to Periodontics and Implant Reconstructive Dentistry in Houston, Texas. Dr. Scheyer is a Clinical Assistant Instructor at the University of Texas Dental Branch-Houston and Guest Lecturer for the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio.

He is currently actively involved with research (including AI, digital dentistry, tissue engineering and interdisciplinary therapy with an airway focus), advocacy for safe dentistry. Dr. Scheyer is recognized as a leader in his specialty, as well as in the broader field of dentistry.

Dr. Scheyer will present *“Evolution of Soft Tissue Alternatives to the Gold Standard in Mucogingival Surgery. 25 Year Retrospective Analysis.”*

The ability to predictably treat oral hard and soft tissue defects has been one of the cornerstones of periodontal and implant therapy. Many surgical techniques and materials have been developed, refined and modified to become less invasive and more esthetic. With all of the bio-materials available to clinicians today, it is always helpful to apply an evidence-based approach to assist the clinician with the rapidly changing marketplace and legitimacies of new products. Tissue engineering and biomimetic materials are not new but still they have not seen a broad spectrum of use in clinical practice until recently.

What are the next steps? This lecture will review classic and current literature and present an evidence-based approach for applying innovations and new materials to everyday clinical practice. Comparisons to the gold standards will be utilized to draw some conclusions related to clinical outcomes, patient reported outcomes, and long-term tissue stability. A focus on periodontal hard and soft tissue regeneration, mainly around teeth, will be shared, and evidence from our own clinical trials will help us support our statements and recommendations.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

- Increase awareness of the evidence and support for oral hard and soft tissue regeneration.
- Understand the science and mechanism of tissue regeneration including true periodontal regeneration.

- Help yourself and your patients with evidence based decision making for clinical use.
- View the future through current clinical trials and new regenerative therapies and innovative technique.
- Strengthen your confidence in saving teeth with innovative regenerative strategies.

Disclaimer: These presentations are intended for educational purposes only. The views and opinions expressed by the lecturers during the course of the lectures are their own and do not necessarily represent the views, opinions, or positions of the NESP. The NESP does not endorse, or approve, and assumes no responsibility for, the content, accuracy, or completeness of the information presented.

ADA CERP Requirements: *All speakers in this CE program have signed a document that states whether or not they have a financial relationship with any of our exhibitors. Any such relationship with a commercial entity will be denoted in our publication under the description of their presentation.*

Provider information: NESP c/o Dr. Jay Fishbein
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Total credit hours for the fall meeting: 6.0

Activity costs: The yearly fee for membership in the NESP is \$710.

Refund and cancellation policies: The NESP does not provide refunds for missed meetings.

SAVE
the
DATE

The NESP Fall Meeting will be on
NOVEMBER 13, 2026
at *The Times Center*

Kratenstein-Scopp Fellowship Award

The David I. Kratenstein-Irwin W. Scopp Fellowship Award for Service is presented to someone who has distinguished themselves by providing outstanding service to the society and to periodontics. The NESP Board is pleased to honor Dr. Stuart Segelnick as the 2026 recipient of this prestigious award.

Dr. Stuart Segelnick, who has a private periodontal practice in Brooklyn, New York, currently serves as editor of the New York State Dental Journal and the Northeastern Society of Periodontists Bulletin. He also currently serves as an adjunct clinical professor at NYU College of Dentistry Department of Periodontology and Implant Dentistry.

He has been recognized multiple times by the International College of Dentists and the American Dental Education Association Gies Foundation for excellence in newsletter

production and editorials. He has co-edited five books on dentistry and authored/co-authored multiple scientific articles. Dr. Segelnick is a former president of the Second District Dental Society of New York (2011), The American Association of Dental Editors & Journalists (2021-2022), and the NESP (2025). He is a fellow of the Pierre Fauchard Academy, the International College of Dentists, and the American College of Dentists.

Dr. Segelnick received his dental degree from SUNY at Buffalo (1992) and his certificate in Periodontology from Temple University (1994). He is a Diplomate of the American Board of Periodontology and the International Congress of Oral Implantologists and has been designated as a Certified Dental Editor (CDE) by the American Association of Dental Editors & Journalists.

The NESP wishes to thank the sponsors of the spring meeting for their financial support. All members are urged to visit the exhibit booths and to acquire the latest information on periodontal products.

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President's Message



It is with great honor and deep appreciation that I step into the role of President of the Northeastern Society of Periodontists. To serve this outstanding organization—so widely respected for its excellence, mentorship, and camaraderie—is both a privilege and a responsibility I proudly embrace. The NESP continues to be a cornerstone of

our specialty, providing a space for education, connection, and professional growth.

I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to **Dr. David Kratenstein**, whose decades of visionary leadership laid the foundation for so much of what we value today. I am also sincerely thankful to **Dr. Jay Fishbein**, our current Executive Director, for his tireless commitment to excellence and his steady guidance in leading the Society into the future.

My sincere thanks go to our **immediate past president, Dr. Stuart Segelnick**, for his thoughtful leadership over the past year. I also want to recognize and thank **Dr. Jessie Shi**, who served as our **2025 Program Chair**, for her incredible work organizing two standout scientific sessions this past year.

The **Spring 2025 meeting**, *“Solving the Atrophic Ridge Conundrum via Augmentation,”* featured an impressive lineup of speakers: **Dr. Craig Misch**, **Dr. Oded Bahat**, and **Dr. Leandro Chambrone**, who shared critical insights into advanced surgical decision-making. In the fall, the November 14, 2025 meeting titled *“Treatment Planning with or without Implants: Saving Teeth for the Long Term or Transitions”* welcomed four globally respected experts—**Drs. Hom-Lay Wang, Joseph Kan, Marc Nevins, and Ziv Mazor**—to a packed audience of members old and new.

We were also proud to feature two emerging clinician members, **Dr. Gazelle Jean Crasto** and **Dr. Brian Choi**, who led dynamic small-table discussions. Their thoughtful contributions helped create a day filled with collaborative learning, idea exchange, and renewed inspiration. Of course, none of this

would have been possible without the generous support of our vendors and sponsors, whose partnership is essential to our continued success.

As we look toward the future, I want to recognize the exciting momentum we’re seeing from a new generation of NESP members. Several recently recruited young clinicians have been instrumental in transforming the Society—bringing fresh energy, modern ideas, and helping us align with a profession that continues to evolve rapidly. From digital outreach to resident engagement, their involvement is helping shape the next chapter of the NESP. This Society will continue to thrive—as long as we evolve alongside it.

My goal as President is clear: **to honor our traditions while embracing change**. To sustain the value of the NESP, we need your active participation. This organization offers tremendous benefits: **world-renowned speakers, top-tier continuing education, and rich professional networking—all at a remarkably reasonable cost**. In the months ahead, we will continue reaching out to postgraduate programs to boost resident attendance and to our industry partners to secure consistent vendor participation.

Looking ahead, we are excited to present our upcoming **Spring 2026 meeting**, organized under the direction of **Program Chair, Dr. Michael Breault**. Titled *“Evolving Paradigms in Periodontal Plastic Surgery,”* the program will feature an impressive lineup of speakers including **Dr. Gustavo Avila-Ortiz, Dr. Shayan Barootchi, and Dr. Todd Scheyer**. This promises to be another day of cutting-edge content and engaging discussion, and I invite all members—new and returning—to mark your calendars.

Thank you again for the opportunity to serve. I look forward to building on our strong foundation and working with each of you to advance the mission of the NESP in meaningful, innovative, and collaborative ways.

Warmest regards,

Philip Kang, D.D.S.

President, Northeastern Society of Periodontists

Pursuing Periodontal Specialty Training

by Stuart Segelnick, DDS, MS, Editor



Dental students who aspire to become periodontists ask me what they can do to improve their chances of being accepted into an Advanced Education Program in Periodontics. While I remember what I did many years ago to increase my odds, that may not hold true today. Looking at the application process, which includes fees, periodontal programs require

all or some of the following: three letters of recommendation, the Dean's Evaluation or Institution Evaluation Form (IEF), an official dental school transcript, a personal essay, CV, and a National Board test score.

Post-graduate periodontal program directors have shared that they look for the following in applicants that would make them acceptable and stand out: Their grades, IEF, and letters of recommendation. They wanted serious candidates who were team players and interacted well with their peers. Some ways dental students could highlight the seriousness of wanting to be a periodontist include positive experiences in periodontic classes and clinics. Did they have extracurricular activities in periodontics? Did they volunteer in periodontal practice? Did they do any periodontal / implant research?

According to an article by Khan et al. (Khan S, Carosino AJ, Yuan JC, Lucchiaro N Jr, Kawar N, Sukotjo C. Postdoctoral periodontal program directors' perspectives of resident selection. *J Periodontol*. 2015 Feb;86(2):177-84.) in a survey that reported on 35 responding postdoctoral periodontal

program directors, the paramount factors in the selection process were the applicants' interview ratings, dental school grades, personal statements, and letters of recommendation.

When a program receives many applications from candidates with very high grades and rankings, getting into a program might come down to their demeanor and the positive impressions they make with the program's director, faculty, and post graduate students, who all may play a part in the interview process. Sometimes experience from private practice, AEGD & GPR programs, or other advanced education programs can help. Asking to shadow in the post graduate program of their choice and possibly assisting during procedures could also be beneficial.

Dental students, dentists and residents who are considering a periodontal career are welcome to join the NESP. At our meetings, they not only will experience the highest quality of periodontal and implant continuing education but also get to visit our exhibitors who will be showcasing the products periodontists use daily in their practices. The NESP social scene avails them of the ability to mingle with post graduate periodontal students who attend the many periodontal programs located in our region. The atmosphere at the NESP is an opportunity for prospective students to chat with established clinicians and postgraduate periodontal students, which may enable them to glean valuable information that would be beneficial in the application process, including which periodontal program may be best for them. The NESP is a fantastic fit for those interested in becoming a periodontist, and in my opinion, it is the best specialty in dentistry!

New Members

The NESP welcomes the following new members

Dr. Youssef Ali, Franklin Lakes, NJ

Dr. Yu-Hsin Chen, South Portland, ME

Dr. Fernando Contreras, Brooklyn, NY

Dr. Tala Ebrahimian, New York, NY

Dr. Neela Fatapour, New York, NY

Dr. Moisey Fazylov, Flushing, NY

Dr. Stephen Kelleher, New York, NY

Dr. Tom Kepic, Upland, CA

Dr. Hyongsup Kimm, Tenafly, NJ

Dr. Kevin Malakov, Forest Hills, NY

Dr. David Malakov, Fort Lee, NJ

Dr. Rachel Weiss, New York, NY

Dr. Gazelle Crasto, New York, NY

Dr. Jonathan Tai, New York, NY

Executive Director’s Message



We are excited to welcome you to our upcoming Fall Meeting on Friday, April 17, 2026, at The Times Center in New York City. This exceptional venue has received enthusiastic feedback from our members for its state-of-the-art facilities and convenient location, making it an ideal setting for our scientific sessions.

Our president, Dr. Philip Kang, and program chair, Dr. Michael Breault, have assembled an outstanding program centered on the theme: “Evolving Paradigms in Periodontal Plastic Surgery.” We are privileged to feature renowned speakers Dr. Gustavo Avila-Ortiz, Dr. Shayan Barootchi, and Dr. Todd Scheyer, each bringing their unique perspective and expertise to this important topic.

To streamline your meeting experience, we are continuing the simplified registration system that will allow a single login to

manage both CE credit and lunch registration. Please take a few moments to complete your registration in advance of the meeting. An accurate lunch count helps us serve you better and supports the society’s planning efforts.

We greatly appreciate the support of our members. We have seen a continued increase in membership and attendance at our meetings. As always, we are grateful to our exhibitors, whose generous sponsorship helps underwrite the cost of our meetings. We encourage you to visit their booths and, whenever possible, place your orders during the conference to show your support.

Thank you for your continued commitment to the Northeastern Society of Periodontists. I look forward to seeing you at The Times Center this April!

Warm regards,
Jay S. Fishbein, DMD
 Executive Director, NESP

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Fall 2025 Meeting



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