If you are an orthodontic resident, then Minneapolis — more specifically, the campus of the University of Minnesota — is where you want to come July 31.

For three days, residents from across the United States and Canada will gather together to attend the 21st Annual Graduate Orthodontic Residents Program (GORP). There they will listen to speakers such as Dr. Brent Larson, Dr. Gerald S. Samson and Dr. Bjorn U. Zachrisson; visit with exhibitors; and partake in special events, such as a golf outing or a paddleboat tour.

The idea for GORP began in 1989 as a means of bringing the orthodontists of the future together for a summer meeting, while at the same time creating an environment to foster professional growth and interpersonal relationships among colleagues and representatives of orthodontic manufacturers.

During the past 20 years, the meeting has grown to an event that involves more than 400 students. The meeting is held every other year at the University of Michigan, with the alternate years at other institutions.

Past meetings have been held at Harvard University, University of Texas at Houston, University of Illinois at Chicago, Ohio State University, University of Toronto, University of Kentucky, University of North Carolina, University of Washington, and Saint Louis University.

The program is unique in that it is the first meeting to bring together residents in a dental or medical specialty program. The meeting is sponsored by donations from orthodontic exhibitors, and by the American Board of Orthodontics and its constituent associations and the American Association of Orthodontists Foundation.

The speakers During the three days, residents will hear from a variety of speakers. Dr. Gerald Samson will discuss “Addition, Subtraction and The Full Monte,” which will focus on a simplified approach to understanding applied clinical orthodontic physiology.

Dr. Brent Larson will take on “Playing for Par in the Game of Orthodontics: The Role of Indirect Bonding” as he compares orthodontics to the game of golf — efficient treatment is like playing in the fairway and getting the ball in the cup with as few strokes as possible.

The presentation will demonstrate a simple, predictable and reliable method for placing brackets that will be beneficial for residents.

LeeAnn Peniche’s topic for the weekend is “The Right Stuff: Establish a Practice That Has Your Name All Over It.” Specifically designed for orthodontic residents, she will focus on the importance of image in establishing a practice.

Dr. Bjorn U. Zachrisson will take on a double dose of presentations. First up is “Planning Esthetic Treatment After Traumatic Injuries and Loss of Maxillary Incisors,” which will detail the advantages and disadvantages of different treatment options for replacement of missing maxillary central and/or lateral incisors in young and adult/elderly patients.

Afterward, he will move on to “Interproximal Enamel Reduction of Premolars and Anterior Teeth — A ‘Must’ in Contemporary Orthodontics,” where he will detail why...