April/May 2011

Hi Friends and Alumni of LSU Department of Pediatric Dentistry!

First and foremost I’ve received a lot of emails about the upcoming annual AAPD meeting. We are all looking forward to catching up in New York so mark your calendars for **Friday, May 27 at 5:30 pm**. We will be meeting in the Bridges Bar located inside the Hilton New York. This informal meet and greet will last until approximately 7:00 p.m. Make plans to catch up with faculty, classmates, and alumni!

The last two months have been busy as the school year winds down. Here’s what we’ve been up to:

On **Thursday, April 28**, Dr. Ron Bell, Class of 1978, took time from his busy Jazz Fest schedule to lecture to the pediatric dentistry and orthodontic residents on Interceptive Orthodontics. The day was interactive, informative, and fun and we are grateful for this valuable donation to the department and the residents!

On **Friday, April 29**, the second-year residents presented their research projects at Graduate Research Day. The excellent presentations reflected the hard work they put into their research. Congratulations to the residents on this achievement.

On **Saturday, April 30**, I had the opportunity to lecture on sedation in Baton Rouge through the LSU CE Department. Pediatric dentist and LSU alumna **Dr. Margaret Alexander** was in the audience. She was a great help throughout the lecture.

On **Wednesday, May 4**, the second-year residents took their written boards after months of preparations. Congratulations again on this important milestone!

**Dr. Priyanshi Ritwik** and I both lectured to the Louisiana Academy of Physician Assistants this May in New Orleans. Dr. Ritwik lectured on “Infant Oral Health” and I lectured on “Pediatric Dental Emergencies” to increase awareness of these important topics.

**Dr. Linda Cao**, 2007 alumna, has also contributed to the Adopt-a-Resident Fund. Dr. Cao is a part-time faculty member in the department and brings a tremendous amount of energy and passion for teaching to the clinic floor. She is a valuable asset to the department.

Congratulations to LSU Class of 2007 graduate **Dr. Brynn Leroux** and husband **Lance** on the birth of their son **Anson Carver Leroux on April 22nd**. Dr. Leroux is a 2009 graduate of the Medical College of South Carolina Pediatric Dentistry residency and currently practices in Baton Rouge with **Drs. Robert Delarosa, Paige Sigsworth, and Brad Comeaux**.

On a more somber note, the department was saddened to learn about the passing of **Dr. Lee "Monty" Harrison** in February. Dr. Harrison was one of the first part-time faculty members in the program. He flew from Shreveport to attend lectures and hosted residents at his home and office in Shreveport. He was a strong supporter of the Department of Pediatric Dentistry throughout his life, most recently attending the 2010 Dummett Memorial Lecture and donating to the Adopt-a-Resident Fund.

**Dr. Billy Michal** will be retiring from the department this June. Dr. Michal leaves a legacy of challenging, teaching, and inspiring both dental students and residents and will be greatly missed. Currently, we are planning a "Billy Bash" for the evening of **June 15** in New Orleans to celebrate his time with the department. Please contact me if you wish to attend.

Have a great May and I’m looking forward to seeing you all in New York! Don’t forget to check out the LSUSD resident poster presentations.

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Second-year residents Andrew Heaton, Nicole Stamen, Elizabeth Thorson, and Sarah Khani on Research Day. Photo by Dr. Musselman

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