

**January - March 2015**

## Department News

Welcome to the friends and alumni of the LSUSD Department of Pediatric Dentistry! This year has had a busy start for the department.

On January 30 LSU School of Dentistry hosted 99 third and fourth-graders at Give Kids a Smile Day in collaboration with the New Orleans Dental Association and NFL Play 60. This successful event was coordinated by **Drs. Kimberly Patterson** and **Nicole Boxberger** and included residents from Pediatric Dentistry, GPR, dental students, dental hygiene students, and faculty and staff from across the school. It was a great day of fun and has also enabled a number of children from the surrounding area to receive comprehensive dental care at the dental school.



**Matthew Leftwich (D4), Dr. Thomas Giacona, and John Lewis, III (D4)** at Give Kids a Smile Day

On February 7, **Dr. Suzanne Fournier**, pediatric dental residents, and members of the Student AAPD organization

represented the department at the Urban League Kid's Expo. Dental screenings and oral health information was provided to participants.



**Dr. Suzanne Fournier, Paige Warren (D1), Seth DeJean (D1), Whitney Walker (D4), Dr. Jennifer Flanagan (2<sup>nd</sup> Year Pediatric Resident), and Dr. Sonam Shah (1<sup>st</sup> Year Pediatric Resident)** at the Kids Expo

In February the department was awarded a one year Healthy Smiles, Healthy Children Access to Care Grant for the amount of \$20,000. The purpose of this grant is to establish dental homes for children not being seen by a dentist. Through this grant the department has hired two student workers to follow-up on children encountered through outreach events and help facilitate a dental home. Funds are also available to offset transportation costs when need is demonstrated.

**Drs. Patterson, Ritwik, and Townsend** attended the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry Exam Workshop in Dallas, TX on February 6 and 7. At this annual workshop pediatric dentists create future exams given by the board.

In late February first year resident **Dr. Kristoffer Norbo** and **Dr. Townsend** volunteered at the Mission of Mercy Event in Baton Rouge, LA. The pediatric portion of this event was organized by alumna **Dr. Johnnie Hunt**. Other LSU alumni and area dentists including **Drs. Brooke Wood, Candice Sullivan, Ric Sanders, Daniel Crawford,** and **Steven Ripple** volunteered.



First year resident **Dr. Kristoffer Norbo** and patient at Mission of Mercy

This year **Dr. Suzanne Fournier** and residents **Dr. Jennifer Flanagan** and **Mimi Lacour** attended the Memphis Alumni Meeting in late February. They attended a number of courses including lectures by Drs. Martha Ann Keels, Scott Goodman, Jed Best, and Gerry Sampson.



The pediatric dental residents and faculty review seminar information with a game of Jeopardy!



Second year residents **Drs. Jennifer Flanagan** and **Mimi Lacour** at the resident social at Rendezvous at the Tennessee Alumni Meeting in Memphis

**Drs. Patterson** and **Townsend** attended the American Dental Education Association annual session in Boston, MA. At the meeting Dr. Townsend graduated from the ADEA Leadership Association. Dr. Patterson was elected chair-elect of the Laser Special Interest Group and Dr. Townsend was elected chair-elect of the Pediatric Dentistry Section.



**Drs. Claudia Cavallino, Suzanne Fournier, Robert Delarosa, and Drew Freeman** at AAPD Public Policy Days

**Dr. Suzanne Fournier** and second year residents **Drs. Drew Freeman** and **Puneet Wadhwa** travelled to Washington DC in March to attend the AAPD Public Policy days with LSU with **Drs. Robert Delarosa** and **Claudia Cavallino**. The delegation members met with Senators Cassidy and Vitter as well as Congressman Graves.

On March 21 **Seth DeJean** (D1) and **Dr. Townsend** volunteered at the Junior League and Children's Hospital Touch a Truck Event. Children toured the Smile Again Louisiana Truck dental screenings were performed.

In March the department was awarded a technology grant by the school for a new phosphor plate radiology system for the clinic at LSU. This system

will allow the department to expose residents and students to multiple radiograph systems.



First year residents **Drs. Janelle Lee** and **Sonam Shah** presented a lecture entitled "Managing a Patient with Hemophilia" for the March Grand Rounds.

This quarter the residents have had a wide variety of guest speakers for seminar. **Dr. Billy Michal** reviewed ectopic canines and first molars, **Dr. Jaime Morales** reviewed bleeding disorders, **Dr. Maria Velez** reviewed care for patients with cancer, **Dr. Deputy** reviewed neurological disorders and **Dr. Yves Lacassie** reviewed genetics.

#### News from Alumni and Friends:

- Congratulations to alumna **Dr. Erin Maturin** and her coauthors on the publication of her article "Resistance to cigarette smoke is increased in periodontal ligament cells by attachment to collagen and fibronectin" in the January Journal of Periodontology. **Dr. Tom Lallier** mentored this project.
- 2015 has been a great year for alumna **Dr. Susan Fallahi!** In January she cheered her Buckeyes to victory at the national championship game and on February 25 she and her husband **Adam Dennis** welcomed their son **Shane Cyrus Dennis**. Congratulations!



Alumna **Dr. Susan Fallahi** and husband **Adam Dennis** cheer on the Ohio State at the national championship game

- Congratulations to alumna **Dr. Bhavini Acharya** who was promoted to Associate Professor in the Department of Pediatric Dentistry at University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston School of Dentistry.



Alumnus **Dr. Patrick Knoell** celebrates the opening of his new office in Lawrenceberg, TN



Welcome to **Shane Cyrus Dennis** born February 25 to alumna **Dr. Susan Fallahi** and husband **Adam Dennis**.

- Congratulations to **Dr. Vincent Liberto** who was awarded the Dr. John Adriana Award presented by the Italian American Cultural Society. On the same night his son **Ignatius Paul Liberto, USMC** received the American Veteran Award.



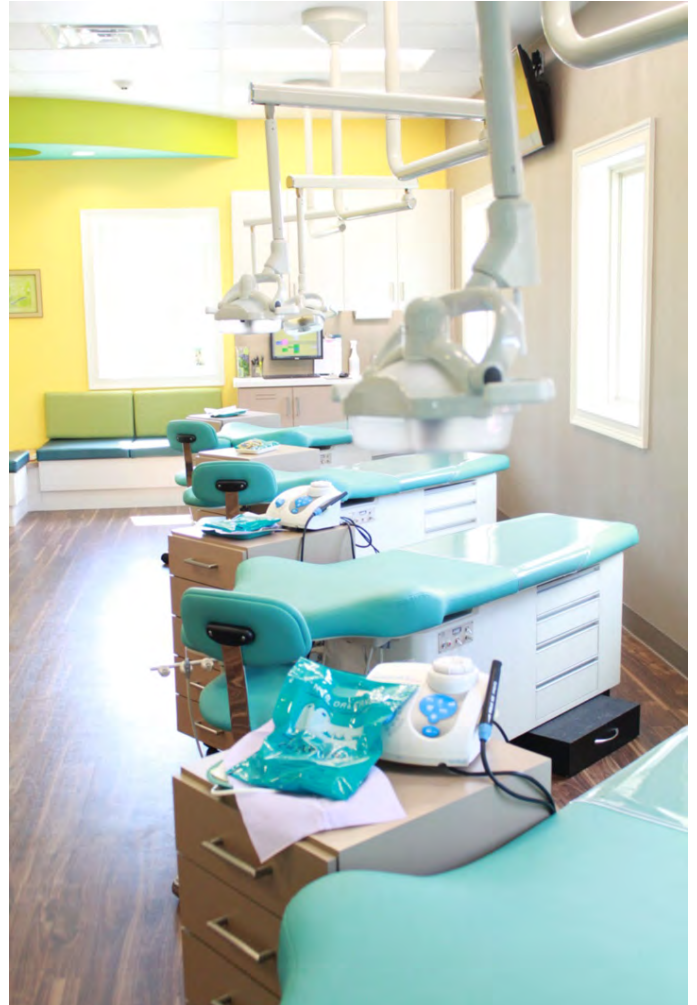
**Dr. Vincent Liberto** accepts the Dr. John Adriana Award with sons **Buddy** and **Paul Liberto**



Alumna **Dr. Erin Maturin** celebrates the official ribbon cutting of her new office Ascension Children's Dental

Dates to Remember:

- June 19 – Alumni Lecture with Dr. Anita Jeyakumar entitled “Current Concepts in Pediatric Adenotonsillar Disease” and Recognition Dinner at Ralph’s at the Park
- September 11 and 12 – Dummett Memorial Lecture with Dr. Bobby Thikkurissy “RETIRING FROM THE RODEO Troubleshooting for Safe and Effective Procedural Sedation in Children”



Congratulations to alumni **Drs. Claudia Cavallino and Kellie Axelrad** on the opening of their new office for New Orleans Children's Dental Center in Lakeview



Alumna **Dr. Bijal Naik** takes in a Nets game and gets the chance to meet point guard Jarrett Jack



**Dr. Stuart Bonnin** has added a Tooth Ambulance to his practice to promote awareness of dental emergencies.