On the Move
by Dr. Henry Gremillion, Dean

“So many exciting things are happening at the LSU School of Dentistry that we decided to launch this e-newsletter to keep you informed. Major renovations to the auditoriums are nearly complete and resurfacing of the parking lots is almost done. The wet labs will undergo a total renovation and upgrade. We are on the move and gaining momentum with every step forward.

“Most exciting of all, we will soon announce the appointments of new faculty. These are the outstanding dental educators I’ve had the privilege to personally interview since becoming your dean last October. Rest assured that as soon as the news is official, we will let you know via this e-newsletter.

“I’ve been inspired by your loyalty and commitment to the dental school, two qualities that will produce rich dividends in the days ahead. I promise to keep you posted.”

War Zone Dentistry

Dr. Guy Ribando, III (’00) is on a three-month tour of active duty in Iraq as a dentist and major in the U.S. Army Reserves. “The Dental Branch of the Army has done some good work here,” he writes from Baghdad. “We have fairly modern equipment, and we treat soldiers and civilians. It is a great reward to help them.”

His sisters, Drs. Maria Burmaster and Valerie Hemphill, are 1993 graduates of LSUSD. Their father, Dr. Guy Ribando, Jr., is a 1965 graduate of the Loyola School of Dentistry. All are longtime supporters of LSUSD.

Top of her Class

Dr. Janice Townsend, assistant professor in the Department of Pediatric Dentistry, scored the highest grade of all 219 dentists taking the national examination of the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry. For this, she has been awarded the “Art Nowak Award of Excellence.” She has also earned the status of diplomate. A tireless advocate for children’s dental health, Dr. Townsend can be found many weekends doing outreach in the community.

“I’m really going to miss this place.”

Surrounded by a large group of colleagues and well wishers, Dr. Bob Sergent, chairman of the Department of Comprehensive Dentistry and Biomaterials, was honored for his many years of service to LSUSD at a retirement party on June 25th. “I’m really going to miss this place,” said Dr. Sergent. He paid tribute to many in the audience, especially his mentor, Dr. Allan Ripps, who was all smiles as he presented Dr. Sergent with an LSU golf bag.

“He provided strong leadership,” said Dean Henry Gremillion, “and he will certainly be missed.”

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