Fellowship Grant Pursuits Prove Successful

Because of the efforts of Dr. David Simmons, assistant professor in the Department of Periodontics, fellowship grants totaling $250,000 have been awarded to the department since 2006, according to Dr. Gerald Evans, professor and interim chair. “Going back to the time when we were relocated to Baton Rouge following Hurricane Katrina, Dr. Simmons has been remarkably effective in pursuing new funding sources.” Just recently, two major dental implant corporations, Zimmer Dental, Inc. and Straumann, awarded fellowships totaling $100,000 that will benefit Dr. Basel Danan and Dr. Mahrufa Islam.

Fellowship to Focus on Complex Cases and Augmentation Surgery

Zimmer Dental, Inc. awarded its $50,000 implant surgical fellowship to Dr. Basel Danan. Dr. Danan is a 2009 graduate of the LSUSD post-graduate program in periodontics. During this fellowship, he will focus on interdisciplinary implant treatment of complex cases and advanced bone augmentation surgical techniques. This is the second such surgical fellowship funded by Zimmer in the past three years.

Implant Fellowship Continues

The other educational fellowship is a $50,000 grant from the Straumann company awarded to Dr. Mahrufa Islam. The funding will allow her to continue the Implant Restorative Fellowship in the Department of Periodontics under the supervision of Dr. David Simmons. This is the second year in a row that Straumann has given this grant to LSUSD.

New Faculty Receives National Recognition

The American Association of Orthodontists (AAO) has announced that Dr. Richard Ballard, assistant professor in the Department of Orthodontics, is the recipient of its Full-Time Faculty Teaching Fellowship for junior faculty. The award is designed to address the nationwide shortage of teachers in dental schools and, specifically, in orthodontics. He has committed to teach at LSUSD for three years after completion of the fellowship.

Dr. Ballard received his DDS degree from LSUSD in 1992, his certificate in orthodontics from LSUSD in 1994, and his board certification from the American Board of Orthodontists in 2005. He joined the LSUSD faculty in July, 2008.

Fellowships from the AAO have generated 112 additional years of orthodontic teaching across America since 2008. The organization was founded in 1900 and has a membership of 15,000.