

Alumni and Faculty Honored in 2016

Every year at Alumni Day the LSU School of Dentistry has an opportunity to recognize excellence among alumni and faculty. Alumni awardees are nominated and selected by the Alumni Association Board of Directors while faculty recipients are selected by the leadership of the school. In 2016, five worthy individuals were recognized for their commitment and service to the dental profession.

Alumna of the Year

Kristi Soileau, DDS, a New Orleans periodontist, received her DDS in 1985, a certificate in advanced education in general dentistry in 1986, and a certificate in periodontics in 1988, all from LSUSD. She has been active in local and national professional organizations, and has served as editor of the NODA newsletter for nearly 30 years.

Dr. Soileau has strong ties with LSUSD; she is past-president of the Alumni Association, serves as a part-time faculty member in the Department of Periodontics, and has generously given back to the school with her time, talent, and financial support.

“Whether you are a periodontist or a restorative dentist, you should be familiar with Dr. Soileau’s contributions to dentistry, dental leadership, and dental education,” said Dr. Tom McNeely.



Kristi Soileau, DDS
Alumna of the Year

Distinguished Alumnus Award

Robert Delarosa, DDS, is founding partner of Associates in Pediatric Dentistry in Baton Rouge. He received his DDS from LSUSD in 1981 and completed his training in pediatric dentistry at the University of Texas



Robert Delarosa, DDS
Distinguished Alumnus Award

Health Science Center at San Antonio, serving as senior chief resident. Dr. Delarosa has served in leadership roles in numerous professional dental organizations at the state, regional, and national levels. “Dr. Delarosa testified on Capitol Hill on behalf of the ADA on issues of access to care for all children and participated in over 100 interviews on children’s issues,” wrote Dr. John Hendry in his nomination

letter. “In every walk of life, Dr. Delarosa represents America’s pediatric dentists. His is ‘the big authority on little teeth’ and LSUSD should be proud to have a graduate who has risen so high in our profession and represented LSU so well.”

Lifetime Service Awards

John (Jack) N. Kent, DDS, FACD, FICD, Boyd professor and professor emeritus, served as chair of oral and maxillofacial surgery (OMS) at LSUSD and chief of OMS at Charity Hospital from 1973-2002 and 2003-2008. He is a 1963 graduate of the University of Nebraska School of Dentistry and 1969 graduate of the OMS residency at the University of Texas Medical Center in Houston. Through his teaching, research, and patient care, Dr. Kent is recognized as an authority on orthognathic surgery, facial deformities and reconstructive surgery, cosmetic surgery, dental and facial implants, facial bone grafting, and biomaterials. Author of 15 textbooks and over 250 journal publications and the recipient of numerous awards, Dr. Kent retired from LSUSD in 2015.

J.M. Chadha, BDS, DDS, MS, FICD, past chairman and professor emeritus of orthodontics, served as a faculty member at LSUSD for nearly 40 years. He began teaching in 1970 and retired in 2008. After obtaining his dental degree in 1956 from Punjab Dental College and Hospital, he came to Boston for a postgraduate internship in pediatric dentistry at Forsyth-Harvard and also completed a two-year clinical fellowship program in orthodontics. He received a master of science in 1962 and a DDS in 1964, both from the University of Iowa. From 1970-2005 he served as coordinator and then assistant dean for advanced education. Dr. Chadha is especially proud of his orthodontic alumni and because of his legacy, alumni have funded endowments valued at over \$2 million to benefit the department.

Shawky E. Mohamed Distinguished Faculty Award

Edward J. Ireland, Jr., DDS, MEd, professor emeritus of comprehensive dentistry and biomaterials-division of operative dentistry, served as a faculty member at LSUSD for over 40 years. In 2010 he received the Allen A. Copping Award for Excellence in Teaching. Following retirement, from 2010 until 2014, he continued teaching as gratis professor in the Department of Dental Hygiene. Retired faculty member Dr. Thomas Spranley said that Dr. Ireland has had a significant impact on students. “Many students light up when they see him. He is exacting and wants everthing the way it’s supposed to be. He’s shaped the lives of a lot of people, some in fantastic ways.”

More information on the award recipients can be found at www.lsusd.lsuhsu.edu/News/AlumAwards2016.html