

## Our Newest Faculty Members

Six new faculty members joined LSUSD in the past year. In a previous issue we introduced Drs. Christopher Spencer and Giulio Fortuna, the two new members of the Department of Diagnostic Sciences. In this issue we introduce Ms. Jane Walsh and Drs. Faye Mascarenhas, Jorge Palavicini, and Panagiotis Dragonas.

**Jane M. Walsh, RDH, JD**, recently joined the school as associate professor and head of the program in dental hygiene. Following the July retirement of Carrie Mason, Suzanne Farrar, RDH, MSHCM, director of clinical staff and patient services, served as interim head until Ms. Walsh was able to relocate to Louisiana. Ms. Walsh received an AS in dental hygiene in 1992 and a BS in 1995, both from the University of Maine. In 2001 she received a Juris Doctor from the University of Maine School of Law and in 2017 she will receive an MS in medical educational leadership from the University of New England. From 2003-2015 Ms. Walsh was a full-time faculty member of the dental hygiene program at Westbrook College Campus, University of New England, in Portland, Maine. She has been active in committees at the departmental, college, and university levels and has presented several research posters and papers at professional meetings. She also created and taught a C.E. course for dental radiology licensing preparation.

A native of Mumbai, India, **Faye Mascarenhas, BDS, MS**, assistant professor of prosthodontics, received her bachelor of dental surgery from Dr. D.Y. Patil University in 2010. Following two years in private practice in Mumbai, she entered The Ohio State University School of Dentistry and in 2015 she received an MS and certificate in prosthodontics. At LSUSD Dr. Mascarenhas is director of the second-year course "Introduction to Removable Partial Dentures" and supervises students in both the prosthodontics undergraduate and advanced education clinics. Author of two articles published in the *Journal of Prosthetic Dentistry*, she is first author of



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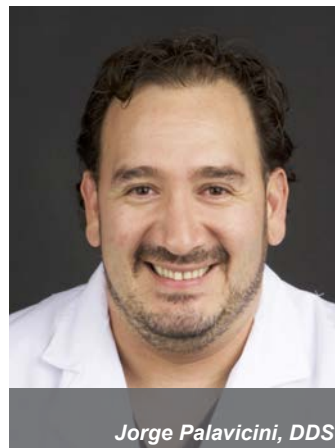
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Faye Mascarenhas, BDS, MS

"Load to Failure of Different Zirconia Implant Abutments with Titanium Components," recently accepted by the journal and now available online.

**Jorge Palavicini, DDS**, clinical assistant professor of prosthodontics, came to LSUSD from Mexico City. He received his DDS in 2000 from the Universidad



Jorge Palavicini, DDS

Intercontinental Facultad de Odontologia where he also completed residencies in general practice and prosthodontics in 2004. In 2008 he came to LSUSD for the one-year implant fellowship in prosthodontics. He has been in private practice since 2000, focusing on surgical and prosthodontic phases of implant dentistry and laboratory work.

Since 2004, Dr. Palavicini has been assistant professor at the Universidad Intercontinental in the departments of geriatric and comprehensive dentistry. He also serves as invited professor in the continuing education esthetic dentistry course at UPAEP in Puebla, Mexico. He has presented lectures to dentists in Mexico, the Dominican Republic, and the United States. Most interestingly, he is an expert in makeup dentistry, having designed and fabricated over 1000 dental makeup prostheses for the cast of the 2006 Mel Gibson film "Apocalypto," as well as makeup prostheses for other film and television productions.

**Panagiotis Dragonas, DDS**, assistant professor of periodontics, received his DDS in 2010 from the University of Athens School of Dentistry. After receiving a certificate in periodontics and an MS in oral sciences from the University of Illinois at Chicago College of Dentistry in 2015, he entered the one-year implant restorative fellowship in the LSUSD Department of Periodontics. Between dental school and his advanced education program, Dr. Dragonas served as a general dentist at the Salamina Naval and Veterans Hospital in Athens, Greece. As a resident, he won first place for his poster presentation at Clinic and Research Day at the University of Illinois at Chicago College of Dentistry in 2015.



Panagiotis Dragonas, DDS