



School of Dentistry

AUGUST 2025

This newsletter is published by the LSU Health School of Dentistry's Office of Alumni Affairs. If you have an event or article you'd like published, please email ds-alumni@lsuhsc.edu for more information.

Table of Contents

- Welcome New Students - **Page 2**
- Summer Enrichment - **Page 3**
- ASDA Fever Week - **Pages 4-5**
- Root Camp - **Page 6**
- Peds. Chair Appointment - **Page 7**
- Emerging Leader Program - **Page 8**
- Alumni Day 2025 - **Page 9**
- From the LDA - **Pages 10-11**



New Year, New Faces!

The School of Dentistry is buzzing with excitement as a new academic year begins. We're proud to welcome our newest students to campus and look forward to watching you grow, learn, and thrive throughout your journey here. Best wishes for a successful and rewarding year ahead!



**Doctor of Dental
Surgery
Class of 2029**



**Dental Hygiene (New Orleans)
Class of 2027**



Dental Laboratory Technology Class of 2027



Dental Hygiene (Alexandria) Class of 2027

Opening Doors to the Future: Summer Enrichment at LSUSD

The LSUSD Summer Enrichment Program welcomed 14 students for a two-day session designed to encourage and prepare minority and disadvantaged students for dental school. The program combined hands-on learning with valuable resources to help participants become competitive applicants.

Students received guidance on the dental school admissions process, housing and transportation, and gained access to a full DAT Bootcamp subscription. They also took part in open, honest conversations about overcoming academic and professional challenges.

This year's participants represented Alabama State University, Louisiana State University, Spelman College, University of Alabama, University of Louisiana at Lafayette, University of New Orleans, and Xavier University.

The program's success was made possible through the generosity of faculty, community dentists and specialists, and a dedicated group of guest speakers, including Dr. Brandon Bean, Dr. Caylin Greene, Dr. Corinthia Wilkerson, Dr. Francis Giacoma, Dr. George Arch, Dr. Nicholas Mosca, Dr. Rachel Potter-Spears, Dr. Remington Richardson, Dr. William Yeadon, Mr. Edwin Kee, Mr. Julio Zavala, and Mr. Hamdan Suleiman.

Tiyuana "Keke" Myres, third-year dental student and President of the LSU Chapter of the Student National Dental Association (SNDA), led the program with the support of LSUSD-SNDA executive board members, Dr. Toby Cheramie, Dr. Stephen Brisco, Ms. Lynn Pittman, and Ms. Mindy Guillotte.

LSUSD would like to extend a special thank you to Dr. Joey Lacoste, founder and CEO of Louisiana Dental Center, whose generosity and continued support help make programs like this possible.



Pictured: Summer Enrichment Program volunteers & attendees

LSUSD ASDA Chapter Hosts Fever Week



The LSUSD Chapter of the American Student Dental Association (ASDA) recently hosted Fever Week, a national campaign designed to showcase the many benefits and opportunities ASDA offers while boosting student engagement across all classes. This week-long series of events created a perfect platform for students to connect, learn, and get involved in chapter activities.

The week kicked off with a lunch presentation by a second-year dental student, sharing invaluable tips and insights about navigating the challenging first-year dental curriculum. This session gave first-year students a head start by offering practical advice from someone who has recently been in their shoes.

On day two, students stopped by a local coffee shop to meet LSUSD ASDA officers over a complimentary cup of coffee, making the morning a little brighter and more social. Later, students attended a lunch and learn where they discovered the advanced technology behind the electric toothbrush.

Day three featured a lunch presentation for first-year students outlining ASDA's mission, member benefits, and ways to get involved with the chapter. The afternoon featured a group yoga session led by an instructor from the LSUHSC Wellness Center, held on the dental school field.

On day four, Dr. James Burns, Assistant Professor of Clinical Comprehensive Dentistry, delivered an engaging presentation on the critical role of organized dentistry and advocacy, emphasizing how involvement in professional organizations benefits students during and after dental school. To promote sustainability, students were encouraged to carpool to school with friends or roommates, fostering community and reducing environmental impact.

The week closed with a lively social event where over 80 students gathered to celebrate the start of the new school year. This fun evening provided an excellent opportunity to unwind, network, and build lasting connections.

The ASDA Fever Week Challenge was a tremendous success, highlighting the chapter's commitment to supporting students academically, professionally, and socially. The LSUSD ASDA Chapter looks forward to more events that engage and empower dental students throughout the year!

LSUSD ASDA Chapter Hosts Fever Week



Root Camp Welcomes the DDS Class of 2029



Before classes officially began, the LSU School of Dentistry's newest DDS students gathered for Root Camp, an annual welcome event hosted by D2 Service Chairs Nicole Maisano, Ethan Redlich, and Joshua Rehring.

This year's Root Camp combined fun, community, and service. Each incoming D1 was assigned an item to bring, including snacks and personal hygiene items, which were assembled into care packages for the homeless of New Orleans. The completed packages were donated to the Ozanam Inn, a local shelter that provides vital resources to those in need.

More than just an introduction to the school, Root Camp offered incoming students a chance to meet their classmates, get familiar with the campus, and give back to the community, setting a tone of service and camaraderie for the year ahead!

L-R:Joshua Rehring, Ethan Redlich, and
Nicole Maisano



Dr. Victoria Sullivan Named Chair of the Department of Pediatric Dentistry



Dr. Victoria Sullivan assumed the role of Chair of the Department of Pediatric Dentistry in July, bringing with her nearly 30 years of experience in clinical practice, hospital-based care, and academic leadership. Throughout her career, she has demonstrated a deep commitment to improving oral health outcomes for children, especially those with complex medical and behavioral needs.

Dr. Sullivan earned her Bachelor of Science from the University of California–San Diego, followed by a Master of Science from Rutgers University. She received her Doctor of Dental Surgery from the University of the Pacific before completing a certificate in pediatric dentistry through the University of Southern California and Children's Hospital Los Angeles. Her training provided a strong foundation for her lifelong dedication to providing compassionate, comprehensive dental care to children and adolescents.

Board-certified in pediatric dentistry since 1996, Dr. Sullivan has maintained long-term affiliations with several prestigious healthcare institutions, including Stanford University Hospital, Kaiser Permanente, Shriner's Hospital-Houston, Dignity Health, Children's Hospital Los Angeles, and Sutter Hospital. In these roles, she has contributed to multidisciplinary teams focused on cleft palate care, hematology-oncology patients, pediatric long-term care, and hospital-based programs such as the Avoid Readmission through Collaborative Care initiative.

Her professional interests extend beyond the clinic. Dr. Sullivan is actively engaged in research, with particular focus on behavioral management strategies for pediatric patients and the innovative use of lasers in pediatric dentistry. She has presented her work at professional meetings and remains committed to advancing techniques that improve patient comfort and outcomes.

In addition to her clinical and research endeavors, Dr. Sullivan is an active leader in organized dentistry. She is a member of the American Dental Association and serves on both the ADA's Clinical Evaluators Panel and the Dental Licensure Objective Structured Clinical Exam creation committee. She also holds membership in the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry and multiple state and local dental societies, reflecting her dedication to advancing the profession and supporting the next generation of dental professionals.

With her extensive experience, collaborative approach, and passion for pediatric oral health, Dr. Sullivan continues to guide the Department of Pediatric Dentistry toward innovation in education, research, and patient care.

Dr. Cathy Honore' Advances Leadership in Dental Education

Dr. Cathy Honore' recently participated in the 2025-26 American Dental Education Association (ADEA) Emerging Leaders Program in Washington, D.C. Facilitated by the Academy for Advancing Leadership (AAL), the program provided fellows with the opportunity to engage with senior faculty in dental education and explore leadership development strategies aimed at enhancing teaching skills.

During interactive sessions, participants focused on current trends in academic dentistry, building professional networks, and developing practical strategies to mentor and guide new faculty. Additionally, fellows formed collaborative groups to work on research projects to be presented at ADEA's Annual Session and Exhibition in Montreal, Canada. The program's mission is to prepare participants to become more effective dental educators through impactful leadership.

As a Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of Comprehensive Dentistry, Dr. Honore' has found her transition from private practice to academia highly rewarding. She is committed to applying the insights and strategies gained from her colleagues and mentors to positively shape the educational journey of her students. Her passion lies in educating future clinicians who are dedicated to the dental profession and motivated by excellence.



Moved recently? Got a new email or phone number? We'd love to stay in touch! Send your updated info to Sarah at spett3@lsuhsc.edu.

Alumni Day 2025

Responsible Dentistry: Advanced Materials and Techniques for the Modern Dental Team

**Friday,
September 26,
2025**

Course Overview

This course is designed for dentists and dental team members seeking to deepen their understanding of both direct and indirect restorative materials in contemporary practice. With rapid advancements in dental materials, treatment planning has evolved to prioritize the conservation of tooth structure and long-term outcomes. Participants will explore how these innovations impact clinical decisions—from diagnosis and material selection to preparation, delivery, and follow-up care. Emphasizing the importance of collaboration, this course highlights the essential role of the entire dental team in ensuring seamless, patient-centered care. Through case discussions and practical strategies, attendees will gain insights into how to optimize workflows and outcomes in a modern restorative setting.

Learning Objectives

- Identify recent advancements in direct and indirect restorative materials and their clinical uses.
- Evaluate the impact of new materials on treatment planning.
- Define each dental team member's role in the restorative workflow.
- Apply evidence-based material selection to optimize function and esthetics.

Post Event Alumni Reception

Join us for a special evening to reconnect and celebrate! Following the day's events, the Alumni Day Evening Reception offers the opportunity to mingle with fellow alumni, faculty, and friends. Enjoy light refreshments, drinks, and great conversation as we honor our shared history at the place where it all started.

LSU Health
NEW ORLEANS
School of Dentistry



Dr. Troy Schmedding

LSU School of Dentistry
1100 Florida Ave
New Orleans, LA

Sign-in & Breakfast: 7:00am-8:00am
Course: 8:00am - 4:00pm
Alumni Reception: 4:00pm-6:00pm

Dr. Troy Schmedding is a 1993 honors graduate of the Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry in San Francisco, California. Troy maintains a private practice in Walnut Creek, CA focusing on aesthetic and functional dentistry. Dr. Schmedding was a Course Director at the University of the Pacific and has published numerous articles on the topics of restorative materials and protocol driven Dentistry. An Accredited member of the American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry, he lectures both nationally and internationally on Aesthetic, Restorative and Adhesive Dentistry. Dr. Schmedding shares his knowledge with numerous dental manufacturers helping to stimulate new product development for our profession.

Register Now!

Dentist / Hygienist, Lab Tech / Assistant, Other		
Early Bird	Regular	Late
until 7/15	8/16-9/15	After 9/15
\$180	\$325	\$375
\$180	\$200	\$250
\$110	\$125	\$175

Registration includes a maximum of 5 C.E. Clinical credits (lecture), continental breakfast, box lunch and post event celebration.



Questions
LSU CDE (504) 941-8193;
CDE@lsuhsc.edu



LSU Health New Orleans Continuing Dental Education is an ADA CERP Recognized Provider. ADA CERP is a service of the American Dental Association to assist dental professionals in identifying quality providers of continuing dental education. ADA CERP does not approve or endorse individual courses or instructors, nor does it imply acceptance of credit hours by boards of dentistry. Concerns or complaints about a CE provider may be directed to the provider or to the Commission for Continuing Education Provider Recognition at www.ada.org/CERP.

ADA
CERP®
Continuing Education
Recognition Program

The registration fee is partially refundable (minus an administrative fee) if you cancel your registration thirty (30) days before the start of the course. Any cancellation after this deadline will result in forfeiture of the entire tuition. Written cancellation requests can be submitted by email to CDE@lsuhsc.edu. LSU Health New Orleans Continuing Dental Education (LSU CDE) reserves the right to cancel the course should circumstances warrant such action. Full refunds of registration fees would be made in that event. However, LSU CDE is not responsible for any related costs or expenses, including cancellation/change charges assessed by airlines.



Don't Miss Out on Your Last Chance to Get C.E. from the LDA in 2025

LDA Last Chance Seminar to be Held December 12, 2025



Annette Drodgy
Executive Director
Louisiana Dental Association

It is hard to believe it is already August and we are registering people for the LDA's Last Chance Seminar scheduled for Friday, December 12, 2025. It will be held at the Baton Rouge Marriott, right off the Interstate in Baton Rouge at the College Drive exit. For more information or to register, visit www.ladental.org/lastchance.

Attendees, including LDA member and non-member dentists, dental hygienists, and other staff can get up to 7 in-person, clinical hours just in time for the end of year license renewals. Our speaker will be Nathaniel Lawson, D.M.D., Ph.D., who is the director of the Division of Biomaterials at the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Dentistry and the program director of the Biomaterials residency program. His research interests are the mechanical, optical, and biologic properties of dental materials and clinical evaluation of new dental materials. He served on the American Dental Association Council of Scientific Affairs and is on the editorial board of The Journal of Adhesive Dentistry and Compendium.

The morning course will be "Materials and Techniques to Improve Your Conservative, Adhesive Dentistry." A dental professional's goal is to maximize the lifetime of the patients' dentition. Every time tooth structure must be removed with a handpiece, the lifetime of that tooth is reduced. Conservative dentistry aims to remove as little





tooth as possible during restorative procedures in order to better extend the lifetime of each tooth. Adhesive dentistry helps us achieve this goal. Adhesive dentistry allows us to bond to tooth structure such that minimally invasive preparations may be performed. The goal of this course is to discuss conservative treatment options as well as the materials and techniques used to perform these treatments.

The afternoon course is “Advanced Topics in Prevention.” Within the patient pool there are patients with different risk factors, including older patients on medications with severely dry mouths who seem to get new caries on each recall appointment, and teenagers in braces who develop white spot lesions. This lecture aims to discuss patients with different risk factors and the specific treatments for them. We will also discuss new products for caries control including xylitol, hydroxyapatite toothpaste, antibacterials, and others. Finally we will address some of the current hot topics in prevention.

Upcoming LDA/ADA Events

[**Pediatric Sedation Renewal Course | September 12, 2025**](#)

[**Sip & C.E. in Napa Valley | September 17-19, 2025**](#)

[**Last Chance Seminar \(Baton Rouge\) | December 12, 2025**](#)

[**Winter C.E. in Big Sky, MT | February 15-17, 2026**](#)

[**NODC/LDAAS \(New Orleans\) | April 9-11, 2026**](#)

[**Summer Education Conference \(Pensacola\) | June 17-20, 2026**](#)

[**Winter C.E. at Walt Disney World | February 7-9, 2027**](#)

[**NODC/LDAAS \(New Orleans\) | April 8-10, 2027**](#)

[**Winter C.E. at Walt Disney World | February 27-29, 2028**](#)

For more information or to register, please visit ladental.org/events