



School of Dentistry

JUNE 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.

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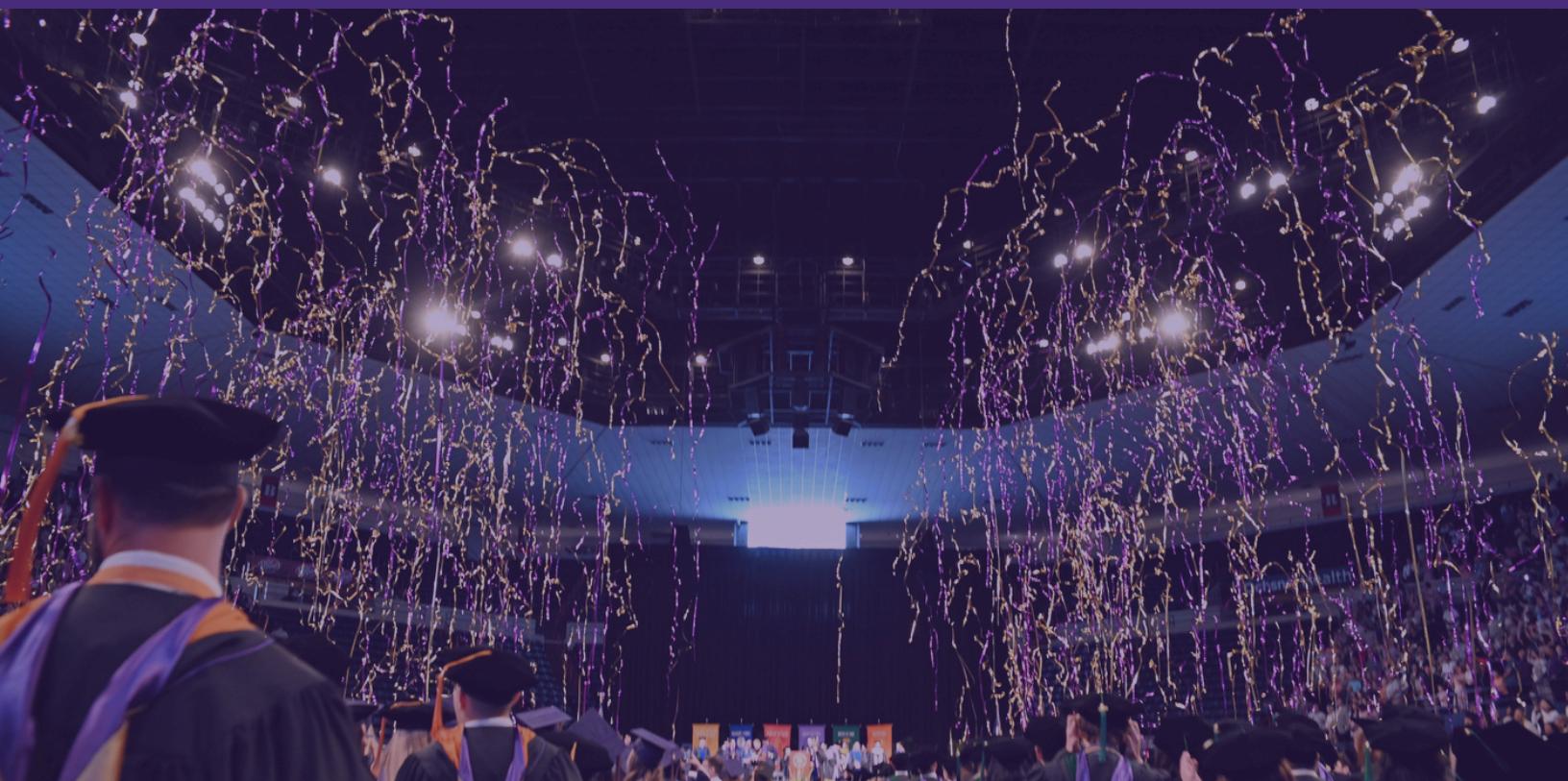
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LSU School of Dentistry Celebrates the Class of 2025

This May, the LSU School of Dentistry proudly graduated 122 students from its Doctor of Dental Surgery (79), Dental Hygiene (38), and Dental Laboratory Technology (5) programs.

On May 14, LSUSD hosted their annual Recognition Ceremony honoring graduates from all three programs. Surrounded by family, friends, and loved ones, attendees heard remarks from Dr. John Gallo, III, Professor and Dean; Dr. Sandra Andrieu, Professor and Associate Dean for Academic Affairs; and Christopher Clinton, President of the DDS Class. The keynote address was delivered by Dr. Glenn Dubroc Jr., Clinical Associate Professor in the Department of Orthodontics.

During the ceremony, faculty members were honored with Excellence in Teaching awards voted on by each programs graduating class. Julio Zavala, BS, MCDT (Dental Laboratory Technology Program Director); Angie Reech, RDH (Assistant Professor of Clinical Comprehensive Dentistry); and Suezan McCormick, DMD (Assistant Professor of Clinical Comprehensive Dentistry) received the 2025 Golden Apple Awards.

Maurice “Moe” Lonergan, DDS (Assistant Professor of Clinical Comprehensive Dentistry) received the prestigious Allen Copping Excellence in Teaching Award. Named in honor of former LSUSD Dean, Chancellor, and LSU President Dr. Allen A. Copping, the award recognizes faculty who demonstrate excellence in teaching, a lifelong commitment to discovery, and an ability to inspire their students.

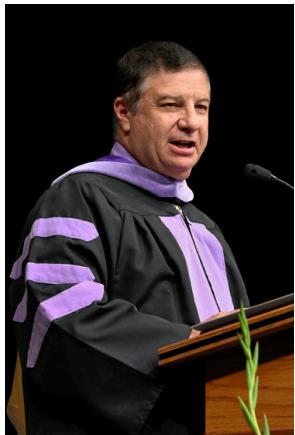
The following morning, on May 15, LSUSD graduates joined students from LSU Health New Orleans’ other professional schools for the university’s 152nd Spring Commencement at the UNO Lakefront Arena. The commencement address was delivered by Louisiana attorney, military veteran, and LSU Board of Supervisors member, Lieutenant Colonel (Ret.) Roderick “Rico” Alvendia.



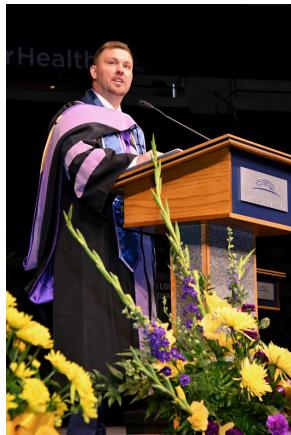
Dean John Gallo welcomes graduates and their loved ones at LSUSD's Recognition Ceremony.

Six LSU School of Dentistry graduates were honored with the achievement awards: Orlando Arevalo (Dental Laboratory Technology), Raquel Gascon (Dental Hygiene), and Allyson Lutgring (Doctor of Dental Surgery) were presented with the Chancellor's Award and Christopher Clinton (Doctor of Dental Surgery), Ally Parrott (Dental Hygiene), and Avery Santone (Dental Laboratory Technology) were presented with the Dean's Award.

Featured Speakers



Dr. Glenn Dubroc, Jr. delivered the keynote address.

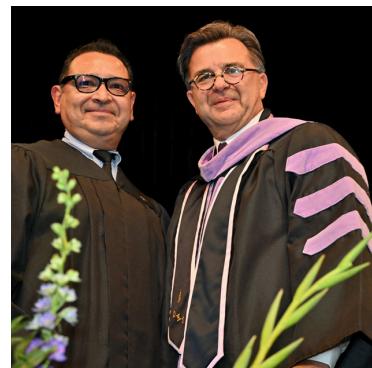


DDS Graduate Christopher Clinton addressed his fellow students.



Dr. Sandra Andrieu closed the ceremony with words of wisdom for the graduates.

Faculty Award Recipients



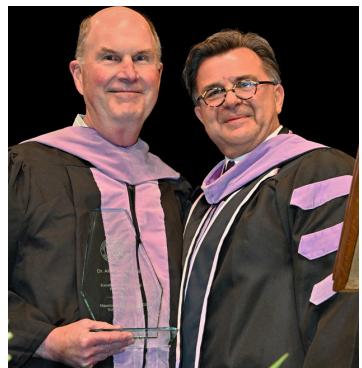
Julio Zavala, Golden Apple Award Recipient, with Dean John Gallo.



Angie Reech, Golden Apple Award Recipient, with Dean John Gallo.



Dr. Suezan McCormick, Golden Apple Award Recipient, with Dean John Gallo.



Dr. Maurice Lonergan, Allen Copping Excellence in Teaching Award Recipient, with Dean John Gallo.

Dental Student Represents Vocation at Special Mass



Taylor Gore (D3)

Taylor Gore, third-year dental student, represented the dental profession at the annual White Mass held on Sunday, May 4, at the historic St. Louis Cathedral. Attending as a member of the LSUSD Catholic Student Association, Gore joined fellow healthcare students and professionals in a special service led by Archbishop Gregory Aymond.

The White Mass, named after the white coats worn by healthcare professionals, honors the dedication and service of healthcare workers—including doctors, nurses, dentists, pharmacists, therapists, and lab technicians. Originating in the 1930's through the Catholic Medical Association, the tradition continues to offer prayers of blessing and gratitude for all those who care for the health and well-being of others.

LSU Dental Students Provide Services to the Underserved Through Ozanam Inn Partnership



Front (L-R): Ariana Mehrabani (D4), Blakely Moore (D4), Trinity Foster (D3), Colin Schultz (D3), Briahna Tovar (D1)
Back (L-R): Cole Schultz (D3), Sarah Berry (D4)

Every Saturday morning during the academic year, a team of dedicated LSU School of Dentistry (LSUSD) students are up early to serve some of New Orleans' most vulnerable residents. These student volunteers operate a free dental clinic at the Ozanam Inn, a nonprofit shelter and service agency for the homeless and needy.

Ozanam Inn, founded in 1955 by the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, has long provided vital resources such as meals, shelter, and healthcare – all free of charge and without discrimination. Since 2014, LSUSD students and faculty have added dental care to that list through a partnership that continues to grow in scope and impact.

The student-run clinic provides assessments, immediate dental care, oral hygiene education, and referrals for more advanced procedures. The clinic operates alongside the medical services offered at the Ozanam Inn, ensuring a holistic approach to patient care.

Two teams of students rotate each Saturday under the supervision of Dr. Sherrod "Shade" Quin and Dr. Suezan McCormick, both Assistant Professors of Clinical Comprehensive Dentistry. Their guidance ensures quality care while also offering a valuable real-world learning experience for the students. Dr. John Ward, Assistant Professor of Clinical Comprehensive Dentistry, joined the team to assist Drs. Quin and McCormick in 2021.

Each dental class plays a distinct role in the clinic. First-year students manage paperwork, gather patient histories, and take vitals and x-rays. Second-year students assist upperclassmen and administer local anesthesia. Third-year students are more hands-on with procedures, including tooth extractions when necessary. Fourth-year students lead the teams, acting as mentors and case managers – a role that mirrors their clinical progression.

Fourth-year student and clinic liaison Sarah Berry, alongside third-year coordinator Trinity Foster, emphasized the mutual benefits of the program. “The patients are incredibly grateful,” Berry said. “And for us, it’s a humbling and powerful reminder of why we entered this field.” According to Berry and Foster, more than half of the dental students at LSU have volunteered at the Ozanam Inn. The opportunity is so popular that there is often a waitlist for last-minute openings.

The clinic also serves as an educational hub. Before patient care begins, faculty lead short workshops covering clinic operations, procedural techniques, and practical insights that extend far beyond textbooks.

To further support the clinic, the LSUSD chapter of the American Student Dental Association (ASDA) recently hosted a fundraiser, highlighting the ongoing demand for essential supplies and equipment. Although LSUSD offers significant institutional support, the needs of the clinic continue to grow.

For those interested in contributing to this impactful initiative, please contact Sarah Petty, Director of Development and Community Affairs, at spett3@lsuhsc.edu or 504-941-8120.



Pictured: Dental Clinic inside Ozanam Inn

Staff Senate Updates

Dental school Staff Senators Michele Holmes and Michael Boute hit the ground running this spring with two well-received events: Hansen’s Snowballs on April 29, generously funded by Chancellor Nelson, and a Meet & Greet that encouraged staff connection and workplace improvement ideas. Both events boosted engagement and brought in new volunteers for the Staff Committee.

Going forward, the LSUHSC Staff Senate Communications Committee will share monthly meeting recaps to keep you informed on key discussions. A staff-wide survey will be released soon to gather input on communication, engagement, advocacy, retention, and elections.

Interested in joining a committee? Classified and Unclassified staff are welcome—just email your dental school Staff Senate to get involved.

Looking Ahead

Next In-Person Staff Senate Meeting

📍 Lions Building, 1st Floor (Downtown)
📅 July 8 | ⏰ 2 PM | 💬 Zoom link to follow

Alumni Day 2025

LSU Health
NEW ORLEANS
School of Dentistry



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 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

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 8/15	8/16-9/15	After 9/15
\$310	\$325	\$375
\$185	\$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



ADA
C.E.R.P.
Continuing Education
Recognition Program

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.

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.



The LDA's 2025 Humanitarian Award Recipients



Rebecca Bordelon
Director of Communications and
Public Affairs,
Louisiana Dental Association

BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA – Every year, the LDA presents the Humanitarian Award to deserving LDA members. The LDA Humanitarian Award recognizes dentists who have distinguished themselves through outstanding dental service activities in the USA or abroad. Keep reading to meet this year's award recipients.

Dr. James Richard Churchman

Dr. Churchman has been a dedicated tripartite member of the LDA, the American Dental Association, and the Southwest District Dental Association for 34 years.

Dr. Churchman's long-standing devotion to providing quality dental care stretches beyond his community. Since 1998, he has attended over 35 international mission trips to provide dental, medical, and water sanitation services to those less fortunate. He has visited countries such as Kenya, Tanzania, South Africa, Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, and Mexico. In 2015, he donated his time in Baton Rouge to provide dental services with the Louisiana Mission of Mercy. In 2023, he served with LaMOM again. This event provided over \$1 million in dental care to 910 patients in the Lafayette area.



Outside of Dr. Churchman's dental volunteerism, he served initially in the Rotary Club of Greater Lake Charles and currently serves with the Lake Charles Club since 1994. Rotary International is an organization that empowers community members to volunteer for humanitarian causes. Its motto is, "Service Above Self." He participates in the Water and Sanitation Rotary Action Group and has chaired the Rotary Action Group for Dental Volunteers. Churchman's dedication to the mission of "Service Above Self" translated well into his roles as a past district governor and CADRE member for the Rotary Foundation. He earned the Avenues of Service Citation, the Service Above Self award, the Citation for Meritorious Service, and the Rotary Foundation's Distinguished Service Award for his involvement. He is also very proud of receiving the "Philanthropy Award" from The Family Foundation of Southwest Louisiana.

A graduate of both McNeese and the Louisiana State University School of Dentistry, Dr. Churchman lives in Lake Charles, La., with his wife of nearly 40 years, Amy. They have three children and are expecting their eighth grandchild in September. Dr. Churchman maintains a thriving private dental practice in Lake Charles.



Dr. Jeffrey Seiler

Dr. Seiler has been a dedicated tripartite member of the LDA, the American Dental Association, and the Central Louisiana Dental Association for 48 years.

Dr. Seiler maintains an unwavering commitment to providing dental care to folks in need. He has been a provider with the Donated Dental Services Program for over 15 years. This program offers free dental care to folks who are over 65, permanently disabled, or have medically necessary dental work requests. Also, he has volunteered with Community Health Worx more than any other Central component dentist. Community Health Works is the oldest free medical clinic in Louisiana (est. 1999).

Dr. Seiler's volunteerism extends beyond his community. His dedication to providing quality dental care led him to participate in multiple international dental care trips from 1993 to 2019. He has offered dental care to impoverished populations in Southern Mexico and Haiti, where he attended seven mission trips. Unfortunately, Dr. Seiler could not continue his mission trips due to political complications in some locations, as well as the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Even outside of practicing dentistry, Seiler volunteers his time for others. For about 15 years, he worked with his wife Janie at the Almost Home Behavioral Health center, a non-profit for females fighting addiction. He chairs the summer feeding program for the children in addition to providing dental services as needed.

Dr. Seiler practices general dentistry in Alexandria with his daughter, Dr. Kim Dukes, and Dr. Steve Chapman. Dr. Seiler never misses a Central component meeting.

Upcoming LDA/ADA Events

Big Bite Fishing Rodeo | July 18-19, 2025

Kick-Off C.E. | August 22, 2025

Pediatric Sedation Renewal Course | September 12, 2025

Sip & C.E. in Napa Valley | September 17-19, 2025

Last Chance Seminar | December 12, 2025

Winter C.E. in Big Sky, MT | February 15-17, 2026

NODC/LDAAS | April 9-11, 2026

Summer Education Conference | June 17-20, 2026

Winter C.E. at Walt Disney World | February 7-9, 2027

NODC/LDAAS | April 8-10, 2027

Winter C.E. at Walt Disney World | February 27-29, 2028

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