

Welcome New Faculty Members

This summer we welcomed four new full-time faculty members to LSUSD. Drs. Brian Christensen and Peter Park have joined the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery and Drs. Edward Starr and Bryan Lara are new to Comprehensive Dentistry.

Brian Christensen, DDS, MD, assistant professor, received his DDS from the University of Washington in



Seattle. In 2013 he entered the LSUHSC oral and maxillofacial surgery residency. During his residency he also completed the LSUHSC general surgery internship. While a resident, he was a member of several teams that received grants to study maxillomandibular reconstruction and fracture repair. Dr. Christensen is a peer reviewer for the *Journal* of Oral and Maxillofacial

Surgery. Throughout his education, he received numerous scholarships and awards, including the Quintessence Award for Research Achievement, and the AAOMS Resident Research Award.

E. Peter Park, DMD, MD, assistant professor, received his dental degree from the University of British Columbia. Following completion of the LSUHSC oral and maxillofacial residency in 2017, he became a fellow in head and neck microvascular surgery at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. While in dental school, he co-founded a



student-run community dental clinic, for which he received the Robert W. Scott Memorial Award for outstanding contribution to the dental student body. Among his other awards was LSUHSC Intern of the Year in OMFS in 2012. His research interests include malignant transformation of oral dysplasia and the use of computer modeling to reconstruct the mandible and dentition after tumor

resection.



Edward Starr, DDS, assistant professor, serves as clinical director of the General Dentistry Residency program at University Medical Center. A 2018 LSUSD graduate, he recently completed a certificate in hospital dentistry at Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center in Chicago. While a dental student, he lead various community

outreach programs, most notably bringing increased dental care to the formerly incarcerated community.

Bryan Lara, DDS, assistant professor, is a maxillofacial

prosthodontist. He completed his dental degree in Costa Rica. After finishing his residency in prosthodontics at The Dental College of Georgia, he completed a fellowship in maxillofacial prosthetics and oncologic dentistry at MD Anderson Cancer Center. He currently divides his time between the departments of comprehensive dentistry and prosthodontics.



Register now for Alumni Day on Friday, September 20!

Join us on September 20 to learn about the importance of good oral health in relation to overall health and wellness. Presenters include:

- -Purnima Kumar, BDS, MS, PhD, The Ohio State University Dept. of Periodontics
- -DeWitt Wilkerson III, DMD, the Dawson Academy
- -Dr. Kathleen T. O'Loughlin, executive director, American Dental Association
- Jessica Owens, DMD, and Panos Dragonas, DDS, MS, LSUSD Department of Periodontics

Early registration ends on August 20, 2019. For more details or to register, go to www.lsucde.edu or call 504-941-8193

