

LSU Health

NEW ORLEANS

School of Dentistry

JANUARY 2024

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

- LSUSD ASDA Conference - Page 2
- Rural Areas Remain a Priority - Page 3
- Pre-Dent 101 - Page 4
- From the LDA - Page 5
- Alumni Day - Page 6



LSUSD ASDA Takes the Lead

This year, the annual ASDA District 5 Conference was held in New Orleans, Louisiana. The District 5 Conference is planned by the District 5 Trustee and their events planning committee. This year the District 5 Trustee is Brooke Badeaux. Badeaux is a third-year dental student at LSU, and the events planning team consists of the following LSU students: Harli Jacob, Caitlin Denton, Justin Nguyen, and Abby Goff. Together, they worked tirelessly to plan an incredible conference for over 215 dental students. They raised over \$130,000, created an itinerary for the weekend with specific sponsors/speakers, planned socials for Friday and Saturday nights, and worked closely with The Westin New Orleans to make this weekend possible.



Events Planning Committee: From left to right starting with second row:
Justin Nguyen (LSU), Abby Goff (LSU), Caitlin Denton (LSU), Keegan Hahn (LECOM)
Golzar Pahlevani (NOVA), Brooke Badeaux (LSU - District 5 Trustee), Harli Jacob (LSU)

This year's theme was "Discover Your Drive: Leading with Purpose." This theme was chosen to illustrate that professional success stems from personal growth and development. Every current dental student will be a leader in their practice one day for their patients and their staff. The speakers were planned accordingly and focused on various topics such as leading with emotional intelligence, treating patients with special needs, how to build a start-up practice, and how to overcome the trials that we may face personally and professionally. The students were encouraged to listen, reflect, and take home a few things that inspired them to become the best version of themselves – for their personal and professional selves.



(D3's from LSU at Vendor Fair:
L-R: Kami Robinson, Brooke Naquin, Regan Pratt, Jennifer Vu)

Rural Areas Remain a Priority

Donation Will Help Promote Oral Health in Rural Areas

LSU Health New Orleans received a \$20,000 donation from DentaQuest, the nation's second-largest dental benefits provider. The investment will help establish a coordinated strategy to encourage and prepare more dental students to practice in rural areas.

Dr. Janet Southerland, vice chancellor for Academic Affairs and LSUSD Interim Dean, says, "We need to get more students from rural areas into the LSU dental program and encourage them to return to their home communities and practice. We need to provide opportunities for advanced training because our state is in desperate need for more pediatric dentists and oral surgeons."

Dr. Southerland says a public-private planning committee will be developed to form an action plan for strategies that will include scholarships and partnerships.

This donation is DentaQuest's most recent investment to support efforts to diversify and expand the dental workforce in Louisiana and other states. "We know that oral health is essential to overall health, so ensuring that every Medicaid member has access to a dental provider is crucial," said Steve Pollack, president of DentaQuest.

This donation is the most recent example of LSUSD's commitment to caring for the oral health needs of people in rural areas.

Four DDS students are currently receiving the LSUSD Rural Scholars Track Scholarship. The scholarships, funded with private donations, help to address the maldistribution of dentists in the state by encouraging students to practice in Louisiana Dental Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSA). For every year that a student receives a waiver of their base tuition, they are required to practice in a HPSA for at least one year.

COMMITMENT TO RURAL AREAS

Carl & Beulah Baldridge Rural Scholars Track
Scholarship in Dentistry

Tuition

\$28,418

Per Academic Year

RST Graduates

7 Students since inception

in 2017

RST Graduates Practice in Rural Areas



Pre-Dent 101

The 12th Annual Pre-Dental 101 Workshop was in-person for the first time since 2020. This workshop, which was held on January 27th, is a joint event hosted by the LSU Pre-Dental Society and Dr. Toby Cheramie, Associate Dean of Admissions, Student Affairs and Alumni Affairs.

The course serves as a "brush up on dentistry" for students who wish to pursue a career in the dental field. The hundreds of students in attendance received helpful and important information from dental students, teachers and LSUSD administrators.

This year's LSU Pre-Dental 101 Committee for 2024 was Marie Lorio, Shannon Klein, Christina Vu, Madison Meyers, Christina Vitale, Olivia Black, Mia Dallimore, Gemma Napolitano, Jenny Tran, Yazen Zaben, Kylie Henry, Bailey Reyes, Faith Jackson, Presleigh O'Dwyer and Delaney Zybko. Hong-An "Mae" Tran served as the LSU Pre-Dental Society Vice President & Pre-Dental 101 Conference Coordinator.



(L-R: Emma Katherine Shannon, Linley Kennedy, Grant Ponthie, Dr. Toby Cheramie, Hong-An "Mae" Tran, Anna Way, Ava Hart, & Dalana Gill)

Perio Review Course

Twelve states were represented for the LSU Health School of Dentistry's (LSUSD) 47th Perio Review Course. 19 attendees attended the course which was held on January 12-15 on the LSUSD campus. The overall Perio Review course is for periodontists preparing to take the Oral Exam (Part 2) for certification by the American Board of Periodontology. It consists of 2 1/2 days of comprehensive review and 1 1/2 days of mock oral board exams. The program is designed to maximize the literature review and update and improve their oral test-taking skills and self-confidence. Part 1 is a written exam and part 2 is the mock boards.

The 2024 oral examination will be held April 29 - May 3, 2024.

LSUSD Upcoming Events

Give Kids a Smile - February 2nd, LSUSD

ADEA Annual Session and Expo - March 9-12, Convention Center

IADR - March 13-16, Convention Center

LSUSD ASDA Vendor Fair - April 4, 2024, LSUSD

Alumni Day 2024 - April 6, 2024, LSUSD

Did You Know That It Is Because of the LDA's Lobbying Initiatives That LA Has Sales Tax Exemptions on Some Dental Materials



(Annette B. Drodgy
Executive Director,
Louisiana Dental
Association)

Because the LDA lobbied for expanded sales tax exemption that passed in 2002, many dental supplies are exempt from sales tax, thus saving practices thousands of dollars EACH YEAR. The LDA also pursued and received a Revenue Ruling from the La. Department of Revenue in November 2004 regarding sales tax exemption. Louisiana grants a sales and use tax exemption on dental devices that are used exclusively by a patient or administered exclusively to a patient during health care treatment. On November 15, 2004, the Louisiana Department of Revenue and Taxation issued Revenue Ruling No. 04-008, which clarifies the department's interpretation of an expanded sales tax exemption on dental devices. As a result, most Louisiana dentists are paying significantly less in sales taxes than they did before that date.

After Louisiana budgetary concerns caused all exemptions to be placed on hold, the LDA fought to have the dental sales tax exemption reinstated on July 1, 2018. So, again, basically what is exempt are materials that stay in the patient's mouth when he/she leaves the office, and most items that are used a single time in the course of treatment and either used up (e.g., prophylaxis paste) or disposed of (e.g., gauze). An important distinction is that materials used primarily for diagnostic purposes are generally not considered as being used for treatment and therefore not covered by the exemption.

On October 8, 2019, the Louisiana Department of Revenue issued an updated publication that shows the applicable sales tax rates on all manner of items that either are, or have been at some time recently, exempt or excluded from state sales tax. The document shows the applicable rates as they have changed due to various legislative efforts to address the State's budget shortfalls beginning 7/1/2013 and extending to 6/30/25, when many of the current exemptions are set to expire. The exemption has been fully applicable since 7/1/18 and will remain so through 6/30/25. (It is likely and LDA will certainly lobby for amending the sales tax statutes again before that time to extend the exemption.)

In order to file a claim for refund for taxes paid to a dental supply company on items that are exempt,

1. Fill out Form R-20127-L (claim for refund of overpayment). You can get a copy of this form from the LDA or by going to <http://www.rev.state.la.us/> and clicking on forms. It can also be found at [http://www.revenue.louisiana.gov/taxforms/20127\(11_13\)F.pdf](http://www.revenue.louisiana.gov/taxforms/20127(11_13)F.pdf).
2. You can also call the Sales Tax Division of the Department of Revenue (225-219-2270).
3. You can fill out the form online or print it out and mail it to: Office Audit Division (Dept. of Revenue), P.O. Box 66362, Baton Rouge, La 70896-6362.

For more info, visit the Regulations, Laws and Guidelines MEMBER ONLY section of the LDA website, www.ladental.org.

Upcoming Events

Winter C.E. at Walt Disney World - February 11-13, 2024, Disney's Grand Floridian & Spa

Sedation Course - March 22, 2024, Embassy Suites Hotel, Baton Rouge, LA

Dentists' Day at the Legislature - April 24, 2024

Summer Education Conference - June 12-15, 2024, Hilton Pensacola Beach

Winter C.E. at Walt Disney World - March 2-5, 2025, Disney's Boardwalk Inn, room block opening soon

New Orleans Dental Conference/LDA Annual Session - April 10-11, 2025, Crowne Plaza Hotel, New Orleans

For more information, visit www.ladental.org.