

COMING UP

Indiana University School of Dentistry Calendar of Events



The Tooth Fairy wows youngsters at PBS's Kids in the Park, as members of the IU Dental School Kids Club (background) offer both parents and children tips on achieving and maintaining a healthy mouth. Photo by Tim Centers.

July 2011



*It's Fun. It's Free. And It's Full of Opportunities for Students:
Join the IU Dental School Kids Club*

*Dr. Liu Is Honored for Best Scientific Article in Prestigious Journal:
Take a Bow, Sean!*

*Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute Awards Grants
to 7 Hoosier Research Teams – IUSD Profs Get 2 of Them*

4 (Mon.)



INDEPENDENCE DAY – school and library closed. Have a great 4th!

6-9 (Wed.-Sat.)

58th congress of the EUROPEAN ORGANISATION FOR CARIES RESEARCH (ORCA), Kaunas, Lithuania

7, 8 (Thurs., Fri.)

ORIENTATION PROGRAMS for DDS class of 2015

8 (Fri.)

PROPOSAL SUBMISSION DEADLINE for Student Research Subcommittee's July 22 meeting

SUMMER SESSION ENDS for dental hygiene class of 2012

11 (Mon.)

Regular school year LIBRARY HOURS resume today:

Monday-Thursday: 7:30 a.m.-10 p.m.

Friday: 7:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

Saturday: 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Sunday: 1-5 p.m.

FIRST SEMESTER BEGINS for DDS classes of 2014 and 2015

14-17 (Thurs.-Sun.)

The IU School of Dentistry and the dental division of the Marion County Health Department are co-sponsoring dental screenings for adults and children at the INDIANA BLACK EXPO HEALTH FAIR. Check out all events and the activities for 2011's Indiana Black Expo at <http://indianablackexpo.com>.

15 (Fri.)

RESEARCH COMMITTEE, 9 a.m. in OH 110

CPR for dental assisting campus and distance-learning programs

15, 16 (Fri., Sat.)

ORIENTATION for dental assisting distance-learning students

16 (Sat.)

Final day for DDS class of 2013 to take NATIONAL BOARDS PART I

18 (Mon.)

FIRST SEMESTER BEGINS for DDS class of 2013

20 (Wed.)



CONSTRUCTING AN EFFECTIVE CV, a special program offered by the IUSD Promotion and Tenure Committee and the Office of Academic Affairs; 7:30-9 a.m. in DS S117. Guest speaker is **Sherree Wilson**, IUPUI assistant dean of the Faculties. In addition to a discussion of the purpose and format of this important faculty document, a CV will be reviewed and critiqued and there will be an opportunity for small-group consultations. **Please bring a copy of your current CV.** Registration is simple: send an email to Prof. **Gail Williamson** by July 15: gwilliam@iupui.edu.

22 (Fri.)

STUDENT RESEARCH SUBCOMMITTEE, 8 a.m. in DS B29

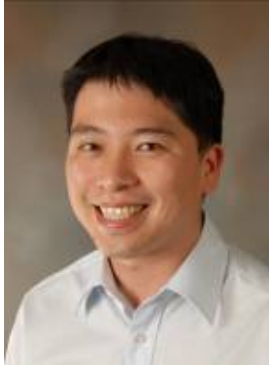
22-26 (Fri.-Tues.)

NATIONAL DENTAL ASSOCIATION annual convention, Baltimore

28-31 (Thurs.-Sun.)

ACADEMY OF GENERAL DENTISTRY annual meeting, San Diego

People, Places, and Things



Dr. Sean Liu

DR. LIU RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS RECOGNITION IN FIELD OF ORTHODONTICS. Perhaps the only thing more exciting than receiving an honor for one's efforts is getting to travel to Europe to pick up the award. Dr. **Sean Liu**, assistant professor of orthodontics, is one of IUSD's youngest faculty and has been with IUSD for only 2.5 years, but the global orthodontics community is already taking notice of him.

Dr. Liu was recently informed by the European Orthodontic Society that the editorial board of the *European Journal of Orthodontics* had chosen one of his articles for the 2010 Beni Solow Award, which is annually bestowed for the best article published by the journal in a calendar year. Dr. Liu was the winner for an article published in August 2010 titled "Continuous Forces Are More Effective Than Intermittent Forces in Expanding Sutures." His two co-authors are orthodontic faculty from the Baylor College of Dentistry, where Dr. Liu received his PhD; and Kyungpook National University in Daegu, Korea.

The award, including a monetary sum of £2,500, was presented to Dr. Liu at the European Orthodontic Society Congress in Istanbul, Turkey, in June.

In addition to his studies at Baylor, Dr. Liu is a graduate of Taipei Medical University's dental and orthodontics programs in Taiwan. You can read his award-winning paper at <http://ejo.oxfordjournals.org/content/32/4/371.full> .



Drs. Angela Bruzzaniti and Jack Windsor

ORAL BIOLOGY SCIENTISTS ARE AMONG STATE'S CTSI PILOT FUND RECIPIENTS. Indiana's Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute has awarded pilot funding to 7 research teams at IU, Purdue University, and the University of Notre Dame, and 2 of the 7 teams include IU School of Dentistry professors.

Drs. **Angela Bruzzaniti** and **Jack Windsor**, both of Oral Biology, will use the grants to collaborate on year-long studies with colleagues at the IU medical school.

"We're investing heavily in developing the next generation of medical researchers to strengthen projects which may one day generate new treatments and therapies in Indiana and beyond," says Dr. **Anantha**

Shekhar, director of Indiana CTSI. “By providing an early boost to promising projects, the Indiana CTSI gives select scientists the tools they need to attract new research dollars to the region from outside sources, including the federal government and industry.”

Researchers who receive the pilot funds must design studies with researchers from two or more CTSI member institutions to encourage statewide collaboration. In addition to the pilot grants, CTSI awarded funds to 17 young investigators and 22 research trainees – nearly \$3 million in total.

Dr. Bruzzaniti and her colleague, Dr. **Melissa Kacena** of Orthopaedic Surgery, are looking at stimulators of bone formation (Megakaryocytes and Pyk2 as Anabolic Stimulators of Bone Formation). They are splitting an award of \$74,326 between their labs, and will serve as co-principal investigators.

Dr. Windsor will pursue a \$75,000 pilot study titled “Bone and Connective Tissue Regeneration Agent for Osteoporosis” with Dr. **Matthew Allen** of Anatomy and Cell Biology. Dr. Windsor is the principal investigator and Dr. Allen the co-investigator.

You can read a full report on the Indiana CTSI grants at <http://communications.medicine.iu.edu/newsroom/stories/2011/indiana-ctsi-awards-nearly-3-million-to-promising-innovative-med>.

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Dan O'Callaghan (D'12), right, shows the PBS crowd what a carious tooth looks like. Furrowed brows and somber faces are the telltale signs that kids are getting the message.

IU DENTAL SCHOOL KIDS CLUB TAKES WING AT COMMUNITY EVENT DRAWING 15,000. “It was a wonderful event,” says **Heather Havens**, who joined Pediatric Dentistry in the spring as the department’s new community outreach program coordinator. “The response from the children and parents at our tent was incredible.”

Heather (shown below) is talking about the IU Dental School Kids Club’s presence at the city’s WFYI-sponsored PBS Kids in the Park event, which put dental students and dental hygiene students in touch with thousands of Hoosiers on June 11.

Heather herself was able to spread her wings – in her personification of the Tooth Fairy – as well as the word about the importance of good oral health far beyond the limited space of the Kids Club exhibitors’ tent. With an impressive set of expansive wings in soothing, child-friendly colors of baby blue and lavender she meandered through the huge crowd, calling attention to Dentistry and drawing parents and kids back to Dentistry’s site for some fun-in-the-sun lessons about teeth and how to care for them. Heather estimates that thousands of park-goers dropped by to chat with Kids Club members.

The youngsters adored the Tooth Fairy, and Heather had a blast playing the role. “I felt like a ‘childhood hero,’” she says.

If this event sounds like fun to you, you’re a perfect candidate for membership in the Kids Club, which currently has a membership of 77 students of dentistry, dental hygiene, and dental assisting. The group’s faculty mentor is Dr. **Joan Kowolik**. *(Continued below photos.)*



Heather Havens in Tooth Fairy mode



A smile from Morgan Flook (DH'12)

“The Kids Club steps out into the community and strives to reach children who have little access to oral care,” says Heather. “If we can teach them at an early age how to take care of their teeth, we can impact them for the rest of their lives.”

What’s the downside of Kids Club membership? There isn’t one. All students from every program are welcome to join. There’s great camaraderie, the personal reward of helping others – and no dues! A stimulating schedule of oral screening and dental education outreach projects is unfolding in the year ahead. First up: Oral screenings aboard the Seal Indiana unit at the Indiana Black Expo health fair July 14-17.

“Kids Club is one of the most exciting and versatile clubs here at IUSD,” says Heather. “We offer a sense of fulfillment and accomplishment at each volunteer event. It’s been a goal of mine since I arrived in April to make Kids Club outstanding, and with support from so many wonderful people we are well on our way.”

Contact Heather if you’d like to join (274-6846; hhavens@iupui.edu). And thanks to the Kids Club members who helped make PBS Kids in the Park a successful community experience for parents and little ones alike:

Dental Hygiene Class of 2012

Morgan Flook
Lauren Ratliff
Melia Stone

Dental Class of 2012

Mary Ann Maravillas
Dan O’Callaghan
Jennifer Sitjar
Miriam Viernes

Dental Class of 2013

Van Hoang
Nathan Stanley

2011 Dental Alumnus

Dr. Carter McCrea

THEY ARE NOW DOCTORS AND DIPLOMATES. Congratulations to IU faculty Drs. **Ana Gossweiler** and **Sivaraman Prakasam**, who have become diplomates of the American Board of Periodontology. Earning prestigious diplomate status in a specialty area of dentistry is hard work, a big challenge, and an enormous achievement. Dr. Gossweiler has been teaching at IUSD since 1997, and is currently a research associate in Preventive and Community Dentistry. Dr. Prakasam was appointed to the faculty in Periodontics and Allied Dental Programs last year.

ORTHO GRAD STUDENT'S RESEARCH IS SUPPORTED BY DELTA DENTAL. Dr. **Michael Fanning**, a graduate student in orthodontics, has received word from the Delta Dental Foundation that he has been selected as the recipient of a Dental Master's Thesis Award, a \$3000 grant that Delta awards to master's-level students at schools in Indiana, Michigan, and Ohio whose research proposals are relevant to the costs or outcomes of dental care. Dr. Fanning's thesis project is titled "Effect of Systemic Fluoride Intake on Orthodontically Induced Inflammatory Root Resorption in DBA/2J Mice." His research mentor is Dr. **Sean Liu**, and orthodontics professor Dr. **Kelton Stewart** is serving as co-investigator.



Kurush Savabi

ANOTHER SCHWEITZER FELLOW IS DESIGNATED AT IUSD. The state of Indiana's inaugural class of Albert Schweitzer Fellows just got a bit larger, thanks to the Albert Schweitzer Foundation's decision to name IU dental student **Kurush Savabi** as this year's 17th Schweitzer fellow, and the 4th to be chosen for this honor at IUSD. Kurush will join his DDS Class of 2012 classmates **Jennifer Sitjar**, **Stephanie So**, and **Miriam Viernes**. All are working under the faculty mentorship of Dr. **Karen Yoder**.

As reported in May, the fellowships were awarded to multidisciplinary advanced-degree students from 3 Indiana universities. The fellows will spend the next year addressing health disparities throughout Indiana while developing lifelong leadership skills.

Kurush Savabi has teamed up with Stephanie So to address the oral health needs of underserved Indianapolis residents by working to improve oral health access and utilization of dental and preventive services through the People's Health & Dental Center. They will initiate a student-run dental clinic in partnership with the center.

ILLINOIS: THE LAND OF LINCOLN – AND, IN THE EARLY DAYS, A RASH OF DENTAL INSTITUTIONS. One of the youngest dental schools among the country's 61 DDS/DMD programs is Midwestern University's in Downers Grove, Illinois. Our neighbor to the west now has 3 dental schools, but in the early years, institutes of higher education in dentistry were about as rare in the Illini state as 3-leaf clovers. Between 1883 and 1902, 28 dental institutions popped up altogether, including some that were nothing more

than diploma mills. At least one of these schools was preventive-minded, as you can tell by its catchy name: the Chicago Tooth-Saving College; and another seemed to be striving to get a jump on the competition by trying to sound egg-headed: the Institutum Dentale Columbianum. California has the most dental schools in the United States today – 2 in both San Francisco and Los Angeles, and 1 each in Pomona and Loma Linda.

IRWIN AWARD DEADLINE AUG. 1. Deadline to submit nominations to the IUPUI Office of Human Resources Administration for the 2011 GLENN W. IRWIN, JR., M.D., EXPERIENCE EXCELLENCE AWARDS, which are presented each fall to full-time faculty and staff for service “above and beyond the call of duty.” Nominees must have worked for IU for at least 12 months: <http://www.hra.iupui.edu/irwin-award.asp>.



Dr. David Bixler

BEAUTY AND THE BIG MOUTH. One of the all-time great profs in IUSD history is the late Dr. **David Bixler**, one of the first dentists in the U.S. to become a “double-doc” (DDS/PhD) and a brilliant geneticist who established a Department of Oral Facial Genetics at IUSD (now part of the Department of Orthodontics and Oral Facial Genetics).

Dr. “B” was an international expert on clefts of the lip and palate; a syndrome was named for him in 1969 after he conducted research on identical twin sisters who exhibited an association of facial defects unique to the scientific literature at the time (hypertelorism-microtia-clefting). He served on our faculty for 34 years, until the 1990s, and died in 2005.

What many of us loved about Dr. “B” was that he relished talking about genetics with anybody, not just students, and he could always find an interesting way to approach the topic.

A typical Bixler conversation starter: “What,” he once asked me, “makes a movie star a movie star?”

I ventured a lame guess or two: Acting talent? Great looks?

Maybe, Dr. Bixler replied, but he believed something else is at play in the movie biz: audiences are attracted not just to stars who meet society’s perception of beauty, he theorized, but in particular to actors and actresses with enormous kissers!

“If you take a close look at movie stars who are perceived as glamorous, you’ll see that most have large, wide mouths,” he told me in 1991. “We hold today’s stars to a standard of beauty originating with the art of Leonardo da Vinci.”

He also said that wide-set eyes are admired in western culture. Dr. Bixler called it the “Jackie Kennedy look” when he counseled patients or calmed unnecessarily worried parents of kids with wide-set eyes. Mrs. Kennedy was the perfect example, he said, because society regarded her as a very beautiful woman even though her eyes were significantly wider apart than the scientific standard.

We remembered Dr. Bixler’s opinions of stardom recently when we spotted a fascinating Vimeo. **Philip Scott Johnson** took still images of 77 actresses who became famous in America during the past 8 decades and morphed one image into the next. Although there is great variation in the shapes of the faces, with few exceptions these sirens of the cinema have ample mouths (or mouths purposely exaggerated by lipstick) and wide-set eyes. Check out the 2.5-minute “Women in Film” Vimeo here: <http://vimeo.com/1455935>.

– Sue Crum



Reference:

Gies, William J.: The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching: Dental Education in the United States and Canada, 1926; p. 48

Send News Items:

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