

OUR TREE

Volume 39, Number 1
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PRESIDENT'S NOTES



by Dr. Jerry Udelson

Happy Spring IU Pediatric Dentistry Alumni and Friends. I hope you had wonderful holidays and mild weather this past winter. It is now time to turn out sights to our upcoming alumni activities.

We will be heading to Toronto with our residents, faculty, and staff to attend the 2024 AAPD meeting on May 23-25. We would love for you to be able to join us in the suite this year. We plan to have our annual program on Saturday night where you will hear an update on the program and be introduced to all the residents. It was wonderful to see so many alumni in our suite last year and would love to fill it again this year. It is a great way to reconnect with fellow alumni and get to know our current residents. Thank you to everyone who has donated in the past to help send the residents to the meeting. We know that our suite will be at Westin Harbour Castle Hotel. Look for information about the suite and our activities in late April.

The Biennial Conference will be held in Indianapolis in April 2025. It will again be a partnership with the Indiana Society of Pediatric Dentists. Currently we are requesting proposals from hotels in the Indianapolis area to host our conference. More information will come out late summer regarding the date and location.

I know you all would agree that our education at IU has allowed us to have a wonderful prosperous professional life. If you have not already done so, please consider making a donation to our alumni association this year. Donations to the Alumni Association help offset the continuing rising cost of sending the residents to the AAPD meeting and our alumni activities. To keep our self-funded organization thriving and continue to support the residents and the department, we encourage everyone to donate to our operating fund, whatever that amount is. When we were thinking what we wanted to do with our lives and applied to IU Pediatric Dentistry we were chosen by IU Pediatric Dentistry to attend the best pediatric dental program in the country. Why wouldn't you want to support that?

This QR code allows you to easily give back to our organization: If you wish to make a donation, please do so while it is convenient.



Thank you so much!

Your President
Jerry Udelson

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT



by Dr. Brian Sanders

Many of you are aware of the major renovation project starting this spring at the dental school. It will include remodeling the orthodontic clinic, building an adult special health care unit, moving the Oral Health Care Institute to the dental school, and

building a student lounge. This project will take place over the next two to three years and during this time the Pediatric Clinic will be moving temporarily to the second floor of the Fritz building to accommodate the construction. The pediatric faculty offices will remain in their current location.

The \$800,000 Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) grant, awarded to Dr. Allison Scully is now in year two of the five-year project. The aim is to transform care for vulnerable populations of children, particularly in rural settings, improving access to care, increasing educational experiences of dental students as well as medical providers and nurse practitioners. The primary site for care is the Amish Community Dental Center in Shipshewana, Indiana. Four dental students and one of our pediatric residents provide dental care for the children once a month, under the supervision of our pediatric faculty. We anticipate doubling the number of rotations in the next year, with the growth of the program.

We currently have several articles accepted for publication that showcase the productivity of our faculty and residents that will be coming out in the next several months. A recently published work includes: Dentino FC, Yepes JF, Jones JE, Scully AC, et.al. *Amalgam or composite in pediatric dentistry: Analysis of private insurance claim data*. J Am Dent Assoc. Aug;154(8):705-714, 2023.

Mark your calendars. Dr. Kevin Donly and Dr. Gerald Samson will be coming to Indianapolis to lecture the orthodontic and pediatric residents as well as faculty on May 10, 2024. Dr. Donly will be presenting, *Contemporary Pediatric Restorative Dentistry - Minimally Invasive to Comprehensive Care* and Dr. Samson will be presenting *Room to Breathe, Airway, Apnea and Expansion*. There is limited additional seating available for those that would like to attend. There is no cost associated with the meeting and you can earn CE credit. Please contact Roxana Fuentes at rfuentes@iu.edu if interested.

Keep healthy and hope to see you in Toronto.



PROGRAM DIRECTOR UPDATE

by Dr. LaQuia Vinson,
Program Director

The groundhog said an early, spring, and well, I'm starting to believe him with us having 70-degree weather in Indianapolis in February. The Class of 2023 was memorable for many reasons. They were our class who started during the pandemic, the class we first experimented with all virtual interviews, and started their program with a primarily virtual education. Thankfully, the virtual aspects didn't last long, and the traditional methods returned. At graduation last June, we were able to give the following awards:

Dr. Ralph McDonald Scholar Award – Dr. John Schlotz

Dr. James Weddell Scholarship – Dr. John Schlotz

Dr. G.R. Baker Fellowship Award – Dr. Hannah Jackson (her husband Clay Jackson c/o '21 won this as well)

Dr. David Avery Scholarship – Dr. Mitch Westberg

Dr. Art Klein Award – Dr. Elizabeth Mechas and Dr. Dylan Nesty

We are looking forward to welcoming the Riley Pediatric Dentistry Centennial class of 2026 starting this July. Did you know the first dental patient at Riley Hospital for Children was treated in 1926? The incoming group represents how far and wide the Riley name reaches. David Neal (AT Still Arizona), Ian Sun (University of Alberta), Keyan Bashiri (University of Maryland), Sylvette Ramos-Diaz (UNC Chapel Hill), and Shira Dancy, Julia Gruver, and Alec Weiss all of IUSD. In February, our current first year class had the opportunity to put on their advocacy hats and participate in the Indiana Dental Association's annual Day at the Capitol event.



L to R: Teliane Bakala, Gillian Casey, Nadia Pritchard, Anne Brouillard, Anne Clark, Abby Roederer, and Elizabeth Asdell

Adjunct faculty member Dr. Katelyn Brauer (c/o 2020) along with Dr. Allison Scully and first year resident Dr. Anne Brouillard recently attended the AAPD's annual advocacy conference in Washington, DC. While there, they had a chance to meet president-elect of the AAPD, Dr. Tom Ison from Newburg, IN who also completed the Cerebral Palsy fellowship at Riley.

As the second years count down the Road to the End of Residency, they are deep in the hustle and bustle of studying for boards, working on research posters, treating patients, and finishing manuscripts.



L to R:
Dr. Scully,
Dr. Brouillard,
Dr. Brauer,
and Dr. Ison



The 2023
Riley Pediatric
Dentistry Holiday
Party

CHIEF RESIDENT UPDATE

By Dylan Nesty

Spring has officially bloomed in Indiana and Riley Dental Clinic! This is an exceptionally busy time for the Riley Rezzies, but like always, we persevere and take it in stride.

We celebrated National Children's Dental Health month in February and National Dental Assistant Recognition Week in March. A couple of the residents (Dr. Maya and myself) participated in Give Kids A Smile at the IU School of Dentistry to give back to the wonderful community of Indianapolis. We were able to oversee the dental students as they saw almost 100 patients from our community, took 140 radiographs, completed 80 coronal polishings, applied 75 fluoride varnishes and 113 sealants! Just recently, our entire clinic went to a local venue called Circle City Candles where we each got to select from a plethora of scents and made our own special candle to take home. The clinic has also recently thrown a few potlucks, pitch-ins, and parties, keeping morale high and most importantly—our stomachs happy!

The second-year residents continue to work diligently on completing their research projects, creating their poster presentations for IU Research Day and AAPD, all while studying for the ABPD qualifying exam. The second-year residents recently had the privilege to attend the AAPD QE preparation course in Austin, Texas to listen to many different speakers discuss different topics in Pediatric Dentistry that are important for both the profession and the qualifying exam. While we were gone, the first years did a great job at holding down the fort in both the clinic and the OR. The first-year residents are working diligently on finishing their research proposals to present to the research committee and have been tackling busy call schedules as they continue to make strides in providing care in the clinic and managing our operating rooms. This is a particularly exciting time of year for all our residents as each of us takes the next step(s) in both our lives and careers, whether they are planning a big move across the country, signing a contract with a future employer, closing on a new home, expanding their families (shoutout Dr. Anne B!), or even making daily discoveries about the type of pediatric dentist they eventually hope to be!

Beyond the Riley Dental Clinic, residents have continued rotating to the Community Dental Clinic in Topeka, Indiana to care for children of the Plain Community. This is an amazing opportunity for our second-year residents to work alongside dental students and faculty from the Indiana University School of Dentistry to provide comprehensive care to children of Indiana's Amish and Mennonite communities.

One of our residents (Dr. Shamus Cooper) recently returned from a humanitarian trip to Ecuador, in which they provided comprehensive oral health care to hundreds of Indigenous Quechua people in the Andean highlands. This trip was a part of the Global Service-Learning initiative through the Indiana University School of Dentistry and included both faculty and dental students from the university.

Lastly, one of the first-year residents (Dr. Anne Brouillard) got to spend a few days at our nation's capital advocating for both our profession and our patients. She was able to speak with

different congressman and women about the big issues in pediatric dentistry as well as national legislation.

We are all beyond excited to attend AAPD this year in Toronto. Our theme for the weekend while we are there is still to be determined, so be on the lookout for surprises that may come your way when there! The Riley Rezzies look forward to presenting our research and meeting all our wonderful alumni colleagues.

Read below to learn a bit more about what the second-years have planned after graduation and what kind of fun stuff the first-years have been up to in clinic!

Second Years

What are your plans for next year after residency?

Shamus Cooper

I will be moving to Charlotte, NC and traveling with my sister to see the ERAS in Warsaw, Poland.

Lucy Knippenberg

I will be working in Kokomo, IN and enjoying having more time with my kiddos.

Maya McFrazier

I will be moving to Cleveland, OH with my fiancé and starting a job in public health!

Dylan Nesty

My wife and I will be moving to Newburgh, IN, and I will be partnering with Dr. Sean Cook!

Elizabeth Mechas

I will be moving to Lexington, KY and working at Pediatric Dentistry of Hamburg/Georgetown.

Nick Carlson

I will be moving to Nashville, TN and working at Cumberland Pediatric Dentistry.

Muneeb Shaikh

I will be moving to Michigan to join a private practice outside of East Lansing.

First Years

What's your favorite thing a patient has told you since beginning residency?

Elizabeth Asdell

That he would rather come to the dentist every day (and miss school) because it's the most fun ever!

Anne Clark

Other than a 1-year-old patient using choice words with me, I think my highlight has been a patient bringing in finger paintings of smiles and toothbrushes and telling me they want to be a dentist one day, just like me.

Anne Brouillard

"I really like your voice. You sound like the tooth fairy!!"

Gillian Casey

"Please don't touch my abscess."

Nadia Pritchard

A nervous patient came in for a recall and as he was rounding the corner with his mom after the appointment goes "the dentist is really fun."

Teliane Bakala-Mpandzou

"I didn't even feel the pokey stuff" 😊

Abigail Roederer

'When I get older I hope I get so many more princess crowns!' - my 4yr old patient.



Second-Year residents after a long weekend of lectures in Austin, TX

Left to Right: Drs. Lucy Knippenberg, Maya McFazier, Shamus Cooper, Juan Yepes (IU Pedo faculty), Nicholas Carlson, Dylan Nesty, Elizabeth Mechas



Give Kids A Smile faculty.

Left to Right: Drs. Maya McFrazier, Angela Yepes, Dylan Nesty

**Mark your calendars.
May 10, 2024**

Dr. Kevin Donly and Dr. Gerald Samson will be coming to Indianapolis to lecture the orthodontic and pediatric residents as well as faculty. Dr. Donly will be presenting, *Contemporary Pediatric Restorative Dentistry - Minimally Invasive to Comprehensive Care* and Dr. Samson will be presenting *Room to Breathe, Airway, Apnea and Expansion*. There is limited additional seating available for those that would like to attend. There is no cost associated with the meeting and you can earn CE credit.

Please contact Roxana Fuentes at rfuentes@iu.edu if interested.

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AAPD SELECTS OUR JAMES E. JONES FOR PRESTIGIOUS TEACHING AWARD

By Dave Avery

The American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry recently informed Jim Jones that he has been named the recipient of the 2024 Lewis A. Kay Excellence in Education Award. He will receive recognition during AAPD's Annual Session in Toronto this coming May. AAPD's criteria for selection follows:

Dr. Lewis A. Kay Excellence in Education Award: Established in 2011 to honor the director of the pediatric dental program determined to best exemplify the dedication and values set forth by the late Dr. Lewis A. Kay. This \$2,500 cash award must be used directly for program necessities or if deemed appropriate, mixed with continuing education for the recipient. The award includes the following criteria as determined by the selection committee:

1. The recipient must demonstrate outstanding leadership
2. Must be committed to educating pediatric dental residents to provide children with comprehensive quality oral health care
3. Must bring recognition to their program through their contributions to society and the profession of dentistry

Dr. Jones' nominator was our own Jeff Dean. Jeff has worked with Jim as a colleague for many years and is most familiar with Jim's professional accomplishments.

Hearty Congratulations Jim. You are most deserving of this honor!!



James E. Jones, DMD, MSD, EdD, PhD

Dr. James E. Jones received his bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Kentucky, his DMD from the University of Louisville, and his pediatric dentistry specialty certificate and MSD from Indiana University (IU). He was a faculty member at IU when he accepted a two-year Robert Wood

Johnson Dental Health Services Research Fellowship at Harvard University. He then served as Graduate Program Director and Professor and Chair of the Department of Pediatric Dentistry, University of Tennessee College of Dentistry, while also receiving the Doctor of Education degree (EdD) from IU.

Following this, he served 12 years as Dean of the School of Health Sciences, Indiana-Purdue University, Fort Wayne Indiana, and also completed a 6-month Congressional Fellowship in the 107th Congress with Indiana Senator Richard Lugar. He later earned a PhD degree in Biological Sciences from Empresarial University. Finally, he returned to IU to serve as Professor and Chair of the Department of Pediatric Dentistry for 12 years. He is currently the Paul Starkey Research Professor of Pediatric Dentistry at IUSD and Riley Hospital. He is also Adjunct Professor of Clinical Pediatrics in the Department of Pediatrics at IU. He has published 137 articles and book chapters, obtained over 5.6 million dollars in educational and research grants and presented over 130 CE courses on four continents.

WE HOPE YOU CAN JOIN US IN OUR ALUMNI SUITE AT THE AAPD MEETING IN TORONTO!

We are making plans for our alumni suite at the AAPD Meeting in Toronto May 23-25, 2024. A mailing will go out in late April with details about the activities we have planned. The meeting and our suite will be at the Westin Harbour Castle Hotel. We are hoping to have our room assignment soon. Please plan to come by the suite and meet current residents and reconnect with faculty and fellow alumni.



2025 BIENNIAL CONFERENCE

The 2025 Biennial conference will be held in Indianapolis next spring. We are currently taking proposals for hotel locations. The conference will again be a partnership with the Indiana Society of Pediatric Dentists. Look for more information including registration information this summer.

CATCHING UP WITH DR. STEPHEN FEHRMAN DDS 1968 & PEDO 1972

by Melissa Evans, Director of Development

How did you decide on a career in dentistry?

I grew up in Gaston, IN which is close to Muncie. There were 28 other kids in my high school class. I decided I was going to be a dentist when I was a junior in high school. My parents used to take me to a dentist who was a friend of the family. I was fascinated by his equipment and that helped me decide on a dental career. I lived about 10 miles from Ball State, so I decided to go there and did 3 years of pre-dental education and then came to IU get my dental degree.

After dental school, where did your career take you?

After dental school, I went into the Navy. I spent 10 months in Vietnam with the 3rd Marine Division. I injured my knee and had to go to Guam for treatment. After Guam, I got sent to the Oak Knoll Naval Hospital in Oakland, California. Once my time in the Navy was completed, I decided to come back to Indianapolis to train at Riley. I left Indiana in 1972 and moved back to California. I worked as an associate in a small dental office for a couple of years. I opened my own practice in 1974, where I practiced for over 30 years. I've been retired from practice for 20 years.

How have you been spending your time since retirement?

I've been married 25 years to my wife Renee. Renee was an accomplished equestrian and we've had a horse ranch for

many years. Renee was competing in dressage, so we've spent lots of time traveling to horse shows. Over the years we've had many horses and donkeys. We also have had many Maine Coon cats. Now, we are down to just one horse and like to spend our free time traveling.

Is there a favorite memory you have from your pediatric dental training?

There isn't one favorite memory, but the best part was by far the people. The instructors that we had, and the other people in the program are so wonderful. It was a great time. Gary and Diane Dilley, David Epstein, Phil Pate, Ron Ditto these are all people that have been dear friends for so many years. At the time it was pretty competitive, and I was thankful to Bailey Davis and those guys for making a spot for me. I am eternally grateful for my dental education at Indiana University School of Dentistry and for my continued education at Riley Children's Hospital Pediatric Program.

Do you have any advice for young alumni?

Best advice is to be very kind to all your patients and their families. That is going to sustain you through all of your years of practice. Everybody works hard in dentistry, but being kind to employees and patients is so important. And don't be afraid to show your humanity.



A TALK WITH DR. BRET JERGER, DDS 1993 & PEDO 1995

by Melissa Evans, Director of Development

(Editor's Note: Dr. Jerger was recently appointed to fill the vacated position of Secretary-Treasurer by Dr. Udelson)

How did you choose Pediatric Dentistry as a career?

My father was a Pediatric Dentist and a 1963 graduate of Indiana Pedo. It was through him and his love of pediatric dentistry that drew me to this profession. After I graduated from the program at Riley, I returned to my hometown of Decatur, IL and joined my father's practice. For nine years, I had the opportunity to work with him until his passing from cancer. I still practice full time in Decatur.

What was your time like at Riley?

I was blessed to have such outstanding faculty members as my teachers - Dr. Avery, Dr. Weddell, Dr. Sanders just to name a few. My most memorable time was treating patients battling Leukemia. During this time my nephew, who also had Leukemia, needed a bone marrow transplant. Our family was listed in the bone marrow donor system, and it turned out I was a match to a stranger. I was able to experience both doctor and patient during this time through my donation while helping treat patients at Riley. My nephew received a match also and went on to have a successful transplant.

What's your life like outside of the dental office?

I have been married for 30 years to my wife, Tracey. We have two daughters and one grandson who was born just a month ago. I am a huge IU sports fan as well as the St. Louis Cardinals, Notre Dame, and Indy 500. In my free time I enjoy golf, running and time with my family. My wife and I travel to see our children who both live in different states.

Do you have any advice for young alumni to set them up for success?

You have to learn the process of success. Extra effort at the beginning is essential. Becoming involved in your community and building relationships through service clubs, youth sports, etc. Focus on paying down debt as soon as possible. Working extra at the beginning will help you get a head start. Also, it's

important to spend time out of the office as well. You need to disconnect to reconnect for both your patients and staff.

Why have you stayed engaged as an alumnus?

I enjoy the whole aspect of being involved. Pediatric Dentistry is a small niche, and because of this it's easy to not have the same connections general dentists may have with each other. It has been essential to connect to other pediatric dentists, so once you find a group keep those connections. I have been blessed to be in "the tree" at IUSD Pediatric Dentistry and part of such a wonderful alumni community.





7 Night Canada/New England Cruise On Board Holland America's Zuiderdam September 28 – October 5, 2024



Cruise Itinerary

9/28/24	Embark Quebec City, Quebec - Overnight	TBA on board time
9/29/24	Quebec City, Quebec	Departs 3pm
	Tentative IUSD CE Lecture	8 – 10am
	IUSD cocktail party	5:30pm – 6:30pm
9/30/24	Cruising the Gulf of St. Lawrence	
	Tentative IUSD CE Lecture	8am – 5pm
10/1/24	Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island	8am – 5pm
10/2/24	Sydney, Nova Scotia, Canada	8am – 4pm
10/3/24	Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada	8am – 4pm
10/4/24	Portland, Maine	11am – 9pm
	IUSD Farewell Cocktail Party	5:30pm – 6:30pm
10/5/24	Arrive Boston, MA - Disembarkation	7am

10 hours of continuing education will be offered on the ship. We are also working on an additional 10 hours of self-study that will be sent to you in advance of the cruise.

Cruise Pricing

- **Inside Stateroom (Category I):** \$1,914 per person / double occupancy
- **Ocean View Stateroom (Category C):** \$2,154 per person / double occupancy
- **Veranda Stateroom (Category VA):** \$2,829 per person / double occupancy
- **Signature Suite (Category SS):** \$3,804 per person / double occupancy

Single, Third & Fourth guest and other categories not listed above available upon request (subject to availability and not guaranteed.)

If you have any cruise questions call Ambassadair at 317-218-0802 or 800-225-9919 ext. 283 Mon.-Fri. between 8:30 am – 5:30 pm EST. For IUSD alumni questions call Karen Jones at 317-274-8959 or kdeery@iupui.edu.

Prices do not include any taxes or fees to be paid in final payment. To reserve a cabin go to: <https://ambgi.com/iuaa-7-night-zuiderdam>

Sponsored by Indiana University School of Dentistry and Indiana University Alumni Association

SEEKING NOMINATIONS FOR THE 2025 IU PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD

The IUPDAA Board of Directors is seeking nominations for the 2025 IUPDAA Distinguished Alumni Award. See the nomination form on the next page. You may also nominate one of our deserving alumni (or a self-nomination) at: <https://dentistry.iu.edu/about/alumni-giving/nominate.html>

Nominations are due by Monday, December 6, 2024. To the right is a list of the past recipients:

Year	Distinguished Alumni Award
1997	H. Raymond Klein
2003	Paul O. Walker
2005	James R. Roche
2007	Dave Avery
2009	Hala Henderson
2011	B. Charles Kerkhove
2013	Brian Lee
2015	William Keaty and Stanley Herman
2017	Phillip Pate
2019	James E. Jones & John S. Walsh
2021	Diane Dilley
2023	Jenny Ison Stigers

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

INDIANA UNIVERSITY PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION 2025 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD

The presentation of the 2025 Distinguished Alumni Award will take place during the IUPDAA Biennial Meeting. The recipient will receive the award at the installation dinner.

ELIGIBILITY

The Indiana University Pediatric Dentistry Alumni Association Distinguished Alumnus Award is presented to an individual in appreciation of dedicated service and unselfish loyalty to the Pediatric Dentistry Residency Program and in recognition of their professional achievements to the dental profession and the specialty of Pediatric Dentistry. Eligible nominees are dental graduates and resident graduates from the Indiana University Pediatric Dentistry Program who are current members of the Indiana University Pediatric Dentistry Alumni Association and who have exhibited the following:

1. Made significant contributions to pediatric dentistry.
2. Supports and participates in professional and community activities locally, nationally, and/or internationally.
3. Devoted extensive volunteer leadership service to the dental profession and to pediatric dentistry.
4. Demonstrates high professional standards and dedication.
5. Provides consultation to colleagues in the area of expertise.
6. Exhibits outstanding dedication to the advancement of the Indiana University Pediatric Dentistry Program and furthering the education of its current residents.

NOMINATION PROCEDURE

A member of the Indiana University Pediatric Dentistry Alumni Association nominates alumni he or she considers has met the eligibility requirements. The nominating person must submit the following information for review:

1. Letter of nomination and the nominee's curriculum vitae.
2. Distinguish Alumnus nomination form.

SELECTION OF RECIPIENT

The Nominations Committee of the IUPUDAA will review all the submitted nominations and will recommend to the board for approval an individual who meets the above criteria.

DEADLINE

The deadline for acceptance of nominations is December 6, 2024.

DISTINGUISH ALUMNI NOMINATION FORM

Please complete the following information blanks. Please remember to include a letter of nomination and nominee's curriculum vitae. Both pieces of information need to be received in order to continue the nomination process.

I nominate _____ for the Indiana University Pediatric Dentistry Distinguish Alumni Award.

Nominee's Address _____

Nominee's Phone Number _____

My name is _____

My address is _____

My phone number is _____

Send this form, cover letter, and nominee's curriculum vitae by December 6, 2024 to: Karen Jones, Indiana University Pediatric Dentistry Alumni Association, 301 University Blvd., Suite 2057, Indianapolis, IN 46202.

Phone: 317-274-8959 or kdeery@iupui.edu. You may also nominate online at:

<https://dentistry.iu.edu/about/alumni-giving/nominate.html>