First Friday.....October 3, 2014

October brings the IUSD 43rd Annual Teaching Conference here to Indianapolis and the annual American Dental Association meeting in San Antonio. These venues as well as others provide rich listening and learning opportunities to reconsider our progress and make adjustments to enhance all of our programs. Of particular interest will be the IUSD Teaching Conference Friday morning session entitled **IUSD 2.0** which will feature several junior faculty members who have been asked to share their thoughts about dental education of the future. We are also pleased to welcome back Dr. Ryan Hungate (IUSD grad 2012) who will share a recent graduate’s perspective on technology applications for dental education and practice. These stimulating events provide opportunities to continue the dialogue and advance the Vision of IUSD to make Indiana University School of Dentistry one of the best dental schools of the 21st century.

- **Decline in Dental Research a Growing National Concern**

This summer, the ADA Dental Stakeholders group discussed four critical areas for the dental profession and education (see sidebar article) which included a declining trend in dental research and scholarship as one pivotal component of a learned profession. Summary points from the conference regarding dental research and scholarship include:

- A strong commitment to research is the foundation of a learned profession.
- Most dental education is based on an experiential learning model, thus students need experiences utilizing the scientific method while in dental school in order to develop the critical thinking skills that will prepare graduates for the future.
- The percentage of the NIDCR extramural research budget going to dental schools is decreasing.
- The number of dentist-scientists (DDS or DMD/PhD) is underrepresented compared to the other 18 health professions.
- Almost all MD/PhD students “made a decision to enter a research career well before they entered medical school.”
- Research and scholarship activities extend “beyond the lab.” Thus, there is room for all dental schools to more vigorously pursue research and scholarship opportunities in order to continue to position dentistry as a learned profession.

This is an opportunity for IUSD to restructure our research enterprise to invest more intensively in addressing this national concern.

- **Update Dental Facilities......It Will Just Take More Time**

Smith Group JJR, the architectural planning group, is now working with dentistry and the other IU-IUPUI health schools on plans for the former Wishard campus. This planning group met with dentistry in late September, and we should receive their report soon.

- **Mid-October, IUSD will re-open the former Regenstrief dental clinic (13 dental units) temporarily to take the pressure off IUSD which lost clinic and office space when Wishard closed the building in December 2013. Some dental staff has been relocated to the Regenstrief building already.**
- **As a future replacement for the old Regenstrief clinical facility which now looks like the site for renovation into a new Center for InterProfessional Education, we are**
discussing options to renovate some of the first floor of the Wishard-PCC building for conversion to a small satellite contemporary state of the art dental clinic. Building new clinical facilities for IUSD remains a top priority. Thank you for your continued patience as we go through extensive University planning activities. It will just take more time to reach an appropriate plan.

- **IUPUI Regatta on the Canal – Dentistry Dominates Again in 2014**
  For the third year in a row, the IU School of Dentistry student teams placed first, second, AND third in the men’s division of the IUPUI Regatta! Congratulations to the First Place Dental School Darting Drillers!
  - **#1 Dental School Darting Drillers**: Matt Wilson, Dane Mishler, Brooks Green, Brad Hobson
  - **#2 Bruxinators**: Jacob Balkos, John Seely, Landon Gamble, Ian Barnard
  - **#3 Dental School’s Drillers and Fillers**: Josh Evans, Johnny Keller, Jon Lane, Matt Parrish

Women’s division.
  - **#2 Dental School Golden Crowns**: Melissa Liao, Ashley Merrymen, Janie Beckwith, Samantha Simon, Julian Albee

Thank you to all the enthusiastic rowers who participated and represented the Dental School so well! IUSD had 15 teams in an overall field of 150, a school and university record! We are proud of you!

- **IUSD Staff Conference**
  The IUSD Staff Conference takes place this October 2 & 3 at the IUPUI tower and across IUSD. Participants will be selecting from choices of 30 separate activities and programs over the two days. An exciting new opportunity this year is the "shuttle diplomacy" of the IU Intergroup Dialog team, who will facilitate a workshop with Staff before driving across town to conduct a companion session at the Faculty Conference to help build stronger ties between the entire IU Dentistry community. There are also a record number of participants in the annual Chili and Dessert cook-off!

- **Winning Again 2014--United Way Kick-off Luncheon**
  Tuesday, September 9th was the IUPUI 2014 United Way Campaign Kickoff Luncheon and dentistry lead the way once again with a generous outpouring by faculty, staff and students who “tipped” their humble servers. This is a fun, entertaining and competitive event between IUPUI schools and departments. The “celebrity server” that receives the highest dollar amount in tips at this luncheon is awarded the traveling trophy for their school/department for one year, until next year’s luncheon. All tips go toward the IUPUI United Way Campaign goal. The dental school won the traveling trophy for this event in 2009, 2010, 2012 and 2013 and has again brought the gold back to the school this year. Thank you to everyone for another enthusiastic show of support for IUSD and United Way@IUPUI.

- **Teaching Conference Awards Recipients**
  Congratulations to IUSD faculty Dr. Darlene West (Johnson Public Health Award); Dr. Judi Chin (IDA Teaching Award) and Dr. Vanchit John (IDA Teaching Award) who were recognized Oct 2nd at the Conference dinner.

- **Upcoming IUSD Events**
  - October 2 & 3rd IUSD Fall Teaching Conference Ft. Benjamin Harrison (Indianapolis)
  - Friday, October 10th – ADA IUSD Reception (San Antonio)

- **No IUSD First Friday Social – Staff Conference and IUSD Teaching Conference**
  IUSD Staff Council will again be hosting the First Friday Social (Nov. 7, 2014) starting at 7:30 a.m. in the basement student lounge with complimentary coffee and donuts until 9 a.m.

Thanks to each of you for your dedication to and support of the Vision and Mission of IUSD. I’ll be back next month with another edition of First Friday...Dean’s Update.

Check out all the current IUSD News on our [website](https://www.dentistry.iu.edu/) or at:

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- John