The Future of Oral Health, Scientific American and Colgate-Palmolive publication

The impact of oral disease on whole-body health and the changes to the practice of dentistry worldwide are the subjects of The Future of Oral Health, a new publication produced by Scientific American Custom Media, in collaboration with Colgate-Palmolive Co. The issue launched on October 21 at the American Dental Association annual meeting in Denver. The publication explores science, policy and new delivery models to better understand the current and future state of the multifaceted oral health field. Within the issue are updates on: oral health of a growing elderly population; global health; the science linking oral health and other areas of medicine; new tools being employed in diagnostics, biotechnology and digital health; and global demographics, which are mandating more accommodating, on-demand approaches to dentistry that reduce costs and bring care to hard-to-reach populations.

You can access the Scientific American Information here.

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Fall is a busy time for professional meetings. The first week of October provided both IUSD staff and faculty time to engage in our annual Staff Conference and the 50th anniversary of the Fall Faculty Teaching Conference respectively. These are times of teambuilding, networking and learning new things as we invest in our people. The mid-October annual meeting of the ADA in Denver also provided opportunities to showcase IUSD faculty as presenters and reinvigorate us with new ideas and strategies to address practice, research or service challenges that we all face. It is through events like these that make IUSD a learning organization as we advance the Vision and Mission of IUSD to make Indiana University School of Dentistry one of the best dental schools of the 21st century.

Fritts Clinical Care Center Progress

Six weeks following the “official” IU groundbreaking event, Messer Construction personnel are making good progress on the new Fritts Clinical Care Center located on the old east patient parking lot. You can literally follow the progress daily by watching the construction camera directed on the site, getting a bird’s eye view of the construction site LIVE, anytime day or night, from wherever you are! A streaming video camera is now accessible online for live viewing, as well as time-lapse replays of the progress so far. This is a “program” I watch every day! The video stream and more information about the project are available on our construction updates web page: www.dentistry.iu.edu/construction. A few operatory naming opportunities remain in the new building so please contact John Hoffman if you would like to financially support the new clinical building with a gift or pledge.

Phase 2: IUSD Building Planning to Kick Off

Just as we are seeing great progress on the Fritts Clinical Care Center, we are in the process of assembling a planning team of students, staff and faculty to discuss what should be done to the soon-to-be vacated spaces in the existing building complex once the Fritts facility is completed in spring 2018. At this point, there is no plan, no funding and no timeline – just thoughts and visions. I invite you to share your suggestions and ideas as we work through the next exciting step in totally updating IUSD for the future. Stay tuned!

Chancellor’s Annual IUPUI State of the Campus Address

Chancellor Nasser Paydar delivered his first annual State of the Campus Address on Tuesday, November 1. He shared impressive progress made on critical student success, faculty/staff and engagement initiatives, the campus’s transformative research enterprise, and preparations for IUPUI’s 50th anniversary. His remarks are available to view via live-stream broadcast.
IDA Endowed Chair Selected – Dr. Dean Morton
Dr. Dean Morton, IUSD Professor, Chair of the Department of Prosthodontics, and Assistant Dean for Strategic Partnerships and Innovation, has been selected the Indiana Dental Association Endowed Chair. Dr. Morton joined the IUSD faculty in fall 2015 and concurrently directs the Center for Implant, Esthetic and Innovative Dentistry. He is a Diplomate of the American Board of Prosthodontics and a fellow of the American College of Prosthodontists, the Academy of Prosthodontics, the International College of Dentists, and the International Team for Implantology (ITI). He serves on the board of directors of ITI and is Chairman of Section USA of the ITI. He is a director and examiner for the American Board of Prosthodontics. Actively involved in the scholarship of implants, he has authored more than 100 peer-reviewed scientific articles and abstracts. He lectures nationally and internationally on implants and esthetic dentistry. The IDA established this endowed chair several decades ago to support a contemporary approach to advance the art and science of clinical dentistry.

Technology Abounds at the ADA Meeting in Denver
I used to think I was pretty good at keeping up with emerging hardware and software for a variety of uses in clinical practice, but I have resigned myself to “just holding on” to the ever-exploding growth in digital dentistry, the internet of things and social media for use in practice today. The ADA Denver meeting was a dazzling array of all the aforementioned technologies and more. One presentation of note was about how consumers – of all ages – seek health information today. Handheld mobile devices (e.g. iPhones and Android devices) are the power brokers of information! Another exciting technology featured a University of Pittsburgh team mentored by Dr. Thankam Thyvalikakath, now of the Indiana University School of Dentistry and the Regenstrief Institute. They have developed and tested a novel mobile application that enables smartphones to capture and transmit images from inside the mouth, along with details on the dental emergency, to provide the information dentists need to make a decision on what – and how urgently – care is needed. This is a compelling reason to expand dentistry into the world of telemedicine.

Indiana Dental Workforce Report 2016
The Bowen Center for Health Workforce Research and Policy has recently released the latest snapshot of dentists and dental hygiene workforce demographics for Indiana based on the most recent licensure data collected for 2016. Interesting reading!

Congratulations
Dr. Jeffery Platt – named Chair, IUSD Department of Biological and Applied Sciences
Dr. Pamella Shaw – received IUPUI’s first Advocate for Accessibility award and co-investigator of IUPUI $4.8M NSF STEM grant
Dr. Tawana Ware – new Diplomate American Board of Pediatric Dentistry

- Upcoming IUSD Events
  - Tuesday, November 8 – National & State Election Day – Go Vote!
  - Wednesday, November 16 – ASDA Vendor Day (8 am to 12 noon)
  - Thursday, November 17 – Faculty Holiday Party Woodstock Club, 6:30 pm
  - Thursday/Friday, November 24/25 – Thanksgiving Holiday Break

IUSD First Friday Social
We will again be hosting the First Friday Social starting at 7:30 a.m. in the basement student lounge with complimentary coffee, donuts and fruit until 9 a.m. Enjoy!

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.

- John

Check out all the current IU Dentistry news on our website: www.dentistry.iu.edu or on our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/IUDentistry