

DEPARTMENT OF PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY

Ms. Cathy Skotowski RDH, MS

Drs. Raquel Jham, Kelli Jobman, Cody Johnson and Matt Pyfferoen (1st year residents) traveled to Boston, MA for a sedation course sponsored by the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry on September 5-7th. The course was entitled “Contemporary Sedation of Children for the Dental Practice”.

Congratulations to Dr. Kecia Leary (DDS 04’, MS 07’) who recently completed the oral clinical examination of the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry in Dallas, TX and is now a Diplomate of the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry. Other University of Iowa alums who also recently received board certification are Drs. Diane Houk, Bill Jamieson and Ross Hugues. Congratulations to all of the new Diplomates of the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry!

The mission of the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry is to verify to the public, third party institutions and to the health professions that a pediatric dentist has successfully completed both an advanced educational program accredited by the American Dental Association Commission on Dental Accreditation and a voluntary examination process designed to validate the knowledge, application, and performance requisite to the delivery of proficient care in pediatric dentistry.

Several members of our department hold leadership roles with the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry. Dr. Arthur Nowak (Professor Emeritus) is the Executive Director of ABPD. Dr. Rebecca Slayton is an ABPD Examiner and serves on the Examination Committee and Dr. Richard Burke is an Examiner Consultant.

Dr. Rebecca Slayton has been selected to serve on the executive committee for the section on pediatric dentistry and oral health for the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP). In October she traveled to Boston, MA to participate in AAP's national conference dedicated to oral health, "PEDS 21". She also recently traveled to Chicago to participate in the National Oral Health Summit, a follow-up to the 2000 Surgeon's General's Conference on Children and Oral Health, where she delivered a presentation entitled "Advances in the Genetics of Craniofacial and Dental Anomalies".

Dr. Jody Murph, UIHC Professor of Pediatrics, also presented at the AAP "PEDS 21" conference in Boston. Dr. Murph updated the conference audience on the work she and Dr. Karin Weber-Gasparoni have been involved with in developing and providing oral health training sessions to primary health care providers throughout Iowa. The oral health training sessions include information on identifying the risk factors for early childhood caries (ECC) and understanding the use of fluoride varnish as a professionally applied topical fluoride application. They will soon be launching six new teaching modules on oral health training that will be placed on AAP's website.

The student pediatric dentistry group participated in a large Halloween event at Sycamore Mall in Iowa City on October 30th. The student group had a booth at the mall and delivered oral health education and materials to the many children who paraded through in their Halloween costumes. The annual event has become a popular Iowa City tradition and the U of IA's pediatric dentistry students have been notable participants for several years.

Ms. Cathy Skotowski recently was awarded a \$4,000 grant from the Delta Dental of Iowa Foundation to continue her work with developing and editing audio-visual pediatric

oral health instructional materials. The educational and instructional materials are intended for dentists, dental hygienists and other health care professionals to increase their knowledge and skills in several pediatric oral health areas. The materials will soon be accessible on the U of IA department website and may also be available on DVD's.

Ms. Gayle Gilbaugh provided a continuing education course to the Dubuque dental hygienists on November 1st which included information on bleeding disorders and making the dental office more accessible for children with special needs.

Dr. Paul Casamassimo was this year's featured Arthur J. Nowak Visiting Professor. Dr. Casamassimo is currently Professor and Chair of the Department of Dentistry of the Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus, OH and a 1976 alumnus of our pediatric dentistry program. During his three day stay in Iowa City, November 5-7th, Dr. Casamassimo presented seminars to the pediatric dentistry residents and delivered a collegiate noon seminar and a full day continuing education course.

Dr. Yousef Yousef successfully defended his master's thesis on November 14th. Dr. Yousef is continuing his studies in pursuit of a PhD.

Dr. Karin Weber-Gasparoni was recently recognized by the University of Iowa in a "Be Remarkable" tribute. The recognition included her photo and a very nice article praising her passion and success in providing preventive education and treatment to very young children who are at high risk of developing dental disease. Ten years ago Dr. Weber-Gasparoni initiated an Infant Oral Health Program in the Johnson County WIC Clinic and to date 1,300 children have been served. Currently the clinic is staffed by a pediatric dentistry resident and fourth year dental students one day per week. Congratulations Dr. Weber-Gasparoni! We, too, think you are truly REMARKABLE!