

## DEPARTMENT OF PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY

Ms. Cathy Skotowski, RDH, MS

The Iowa Academy of Pediatric Dentistry held its annual meeting and continuing education course in Iowa City on March 29<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Sandra Guzman-Armstrong and Dr. Steve Armstrong (both Operative Department) were the continuing education presenters. Dr. Guzman-Armstrong delivered a presentation entitled “Current Concepts of Minimally Invasive Caries Management” and Dr. Armstrong’s presentation was entitled “Dental Biomaterial Controversies and New Applications.”

Ms. Gayle Gilbaugh, dental hygienist in the department, recently developed a flip chart to be used in educating parents and caregivers in meeting the challenges of delivering oral health care for individuals with special health care needs. Ms. Gilbaugh received a \$10,000 grant from the Delta Dental of Iowa Foundation to develop *Healthy Smiles for Special Individuals – A Caregiver’s Guide*. This 8 ½ x 11 inch flip chart provides practical information for the dental professional, as well as the non-dental health professional, in working with caregivers. Topics include: oral health conditions, daily oral hygiene tips, toothbrush selection/adaptations, dry mouth, preventive agents, mouth props and floss aids.

100 copies of the “*Healthy Smiles for Special Individuals – A Caregiver’s Guide*” flip chart have been produced and are being distributed for use as a pilot. Feedback will be gathered for making revisions and judging the demand for the flip charts. In Ames on April 16, Ms. Gilbaugh delivered a presentation entitled “Healthy Smiles for Special Children” to the state I-Smile coordinators. During the presentation, Ms. Gilbaugh introduced and distributed the flip charts. The I-Smile coordinators have agreed to help pilot the flip charts.

Ms. Chelsea Twohig (D3) and Ms. Jena Hopkins (D2) presented a table clinic at the IDA annual meeting in Des Moines on May 5 entitled “Pediatric Educational Oral Health Resources in Spanish.” Representing IASDA (Iowa branch of the American Student Dental Association) and HDA (Hispanic Dental Association-student chapter), the two reviewed and distributed educational flip charts and brushing calendars translated in Spanish. They also distributed DVDs of educational videos reviewing oral health for the young child. Ms. Cathy Skotowski was the faculty mentor for this project which received its initial funding from a Delta Dental Foundation mini-grant.

Fourth-year dental student Sandy Imoehl recently was awarded the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry Certificate for Outstanding Senior Undergraduate Award in Pediatric Dentistry. We are happy she will soon be entering our residency program.

Drs. Karin Weber-Gasparoni and John Warren (Preventive and Community Dentistry) were in San Francisco, CA, on May 7-10 leading a caries exam training and calibration session for three NIDCR Disparities Centers – University of California San Francisco, University of Colorado and Boston University. The training session provides information and clinical calibration on the use of criteria for caries epidemiological exams in young children. As part of an NIH cooperative agreement, examiners from the three Early Childhood Caries Collaborative Centers must be trained to provide standardized, uniform, dental examinations for research projects involving Early Childhood Caries. The NIH Program Official has recommended that Drs. Weber-Gasparoni and Warren be responsible for the training and calibration for the next 4 years.

The American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry (AAPD) held their 65<sup>th</sup> annual session in San Diego, CA, May 25<sup>th</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Rebecca Slayton was moderator for the mini-clinic sessions.

Drs. Matt Geneser and Tad Mabry each delivered oral presentations during the “String of Pearls” continuing education section. Presenting their research in the poster division were residents Drs. Scott Bower, Hilary Reynolds, and Sarah Swenson. Congratulations to Dr. Swenson who received first place honors in the graduate poster division. Dr. Arthur Nowak (professor emeritus) was recognized for his many years of service to the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry as its executive director. Dr. Nowak recently retired from that position and was recognized for his tremendous dedication and service at a dinner celebration on the USS Midway Aircraft Carrier. Thank you, Dr. Nowak!

As usual, on Saturday evening of the AAPD meeting, an Iowa reception was well attended by Iowa alumni traveling from all over the U.S. The evening provided an opportunity for alumni, current residents, and faculty to reminisce, share good times, and of course, sing a rendition of the Iowa Fight Song!



Photo: Dr. Tad Mabry presenting Sandy Imoehl (D4) with the AAPD Certificate for Outstanding Senior Undergraduate Award in Pediatric Dentistry.



(Photo): Dr. Arthur Nowak pictured with department staff Cindy Becker (left) and Anita Forbes (right) after his retirement dinner on the USS Midway Aircraft Carrier.