

## DEPARTMENT OF PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY

Cathy Skotowski

On Saturday, April 12, College of Dentistry students, residents, and faculty members participated in an outreach event, "Celebration of the Young Child," held at the Iowa Children's Museum at Coral Ridge Mall. Several organizations had displays and interactive events for young children and their parents. Our department personnel provided dental education, screenings and fluoride varnish to 32 children. Those participating were Dr. Arwa Owais and Ms. Cathy Skotowski, faculty members; Drs. Sam Christensen, Vanessa Axelsen, and Byron Murphy, residents; and dental students Josh Orgill (D2), Casey Goetz (D1), Chad Menke (D2), Eric Moellers (D2), and Marcela Paulino DaCosta (D2). Children had the opportunity to brush the teeth of various puppets and they also received oral hygiene supplies and stickers. A great time was enjoyed by all!

On May 2, nine middle school students and several teachers from Allamakee County visited the College of Dentistry and participated in a program entitled "Project SEALED." The Project SEALED program is a component of the Better Futures for Iowa Initiative with Dr. Dan Caplan, Preventive and Community Dentistry, as principal investigator. Ms. Cathy Skotowski began the program by providing a brief interactive Turning Point Powerpoint presentation on dental careers and an overview of oral health concepts followed by Dr. Caplan's PowerPoint instruction on placing a composite. The students then moved to the bench lab for a hands-on experience placing composite in cavity-prepped plastic teeth.

The College of Dentistry was well represented at the Iowa Dental Association's Annual Meeting's Table Clinic session held May 3. Representing our department were Mr. Justin Anderson (third-year dental student) with his poster entitled "Pulpotomy Ratio in Primary Teeth with Stainless Steel Crowns." Dr. Mike Kanellis is the faculty mentor for this project. Ms. Cathy Skotowski also presented a table clinic entitled "Oral Health Resources for Children." The IDA table clinic sessions offer a unique opportunity for College of Dentistry students, residents and faculty to interact with the dental assistants, hygienists, and dentists of Iowa.

Fourth-year dental student Diana Pelzer 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.

The American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry (AAPD) held their 67<sup>th</sup> annual session in Boston, MA May 22-25. We had nine presenters from the University of Iowa this year. All four of our second-year

residents, Drs. Fox, Leifker, Risma and Weinberg, presented their research along with four dental students, Meghan Hash, D3, Justin Anderson D3, Nick Luke D2, and Jessica Gradoville, D2. Dr. Karin Weber-Gasparoni presented a Mini-Clinic session entitled “Self-Determination Theory: A Motivational Approach for ECC Prevention.”

Two Iowa graduates, Drs. Sarah Swenson and Hilary Reynolds, were acknowledged by the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry as having successfully completing their oral clinical exams. The College of Diplomates’ installation ceremony was held May 24. Congratulations new diplomates!

As usual, on Saturday evening of the AAPD meeting, an Iowa reception was well attended by Iowa alumni traveling from all over the US. 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!



Dr. Tad Mabry presenting Diana Pelzer the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry Certificate for Outstanding Senior Undergraduate Award.



Second-year residents Drs. Greg Weinberg, Sandy Fox, Kayla Risma and Steve Leifker pictured at the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry’s annual meeting held recently in Boston.