

## **DEPARTMENT OF PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY**

Ms. Cathy Skotowski RDH, MS

In June we bid farewell to our four graduating residents. Dr. Kyle Beulke now practices in Nashville, TN. Drs. Diana Pelzer and Julie Smith are both practicing in West Des Moines, and Dr. Peter Stanley now practices in Jonesboro, AR. We wish all of them continued success and happiness as they embark on their pediatric dental careers.

We welcomed five new residents: Dr. Joan Attridge is a graduate from the University of Michigan and is an officer in the Indian Health Service. Dr. Reem Oweis is a graduate from Jordan University of Science and Technology and recently completed PhD course work in oral science from the University of Iowa. Dr. Megan Rohman is a graduate from the University of Iowa and had practiced in Colorado. Dr. Nicole Youngers is a graduate of the University of Iowa and had practiced in Oregon. Dr. Zach Percival is a recent graduate from the University of Iowa. We look forward to working with all of them the next two years.

As the new academic year begins, we would like to acknowledge our adjunct faculty members who will assist us throughout the year teaching D-3 students and pediatric dentistry residents. This year we are fortunate to have returning adjunct faculty Drs. Erik Balster, Annie Fencel, Natalie Ghosheh, Polly Iben, Jarod Johnson, Steve Leifker, Mike Mathews, Tom Maurice, Matt Pyfferoen, Ed Rick, Mike Stufflebeam, and faculty emeritus, Dr. Cynthia Christensen. We thank them for their generosity, dedication and commitment!

During the past 23 years, pediatric dentistry residents, departmental faculty, and dental students have partnered with Proteus Inc., a nonprofit organization that has been serving migrant and seasonal farm workers, to provide dental care services to the children of local migrant farm workers. On July 16 and 27 we packed up the department vehicle with all of the necessary portable dental equipment and supplies and traveled to two local migrant camps within an hour's radius of Iowa City. Dental exams and fluoride varnish applications were provided on-site to 30 children. Follow-up restorative dental care for seven children was arranged for and provided on August 2 at the College of Dentistry. Although this outreach event often seems to fall on some of the hottest days of the summer, everyone seemed to enjoy the event! It is worthwhile to see the smiles on the children's faces when they hop out of the portable dental chair and receive their new toothbrush, toothpaste, and sugarless gum!

At the All-College Conference held August 15, department staff were recognized for their years of service to the College of Dentistry. Jaimie Kleppe was recognized for 5 years of service. Bridget Barba, Michelle Hermann and Dr. Karin Weber-Gasparoni were all recognized for 15 years of service. Cathy Skotowski was recognized for 30 years of service. We are fortunate to have outstanding people in our department and are immensely grateful for all they do!

Dr. Kecia Leary recently attended the Association of Dental Educators in Europe (ADEE) meeting which was held in Barcelona, Spain. She presented a poster entitled "Concepts in Critical Thinking Applied to Developing a Model for Interprofessional Education." Dean David Johnsen was co-author on the poster and attended the meeting as well.

Dr. Arwa Owais and Dr. Mike Kanellis recently traveled to Oregon to the QUEST Symposium on Caries and discussed preliminary results of the Iowa Silver Nitrate study.

Congratulations go out to Dr. Arwa Owais for having been elected to be the North American Regional Councilor for the International Association of Dental Research Pediatric Oral Health Research Group! This is a highly prestigious, competitive, and sought-after position and we are extremely proud of Dr. Owais and of all of her achievements!

**PHOTO:** First year pediatric dentistry residents (left to right) Drs. Reem Oweis, Nicole Youngers, Joan Attridge, Megan Rohman, and Zach Percival.