

# NODA News

**MISSION STATEMENT**

*To maintain a cohesive organization that serves its membership by promoting the art, science and professionalism of dentistry, and by communicating the value of optimal oral health to the community.*

**VOL. 62 MARCH '24 NO. 03**

## President’s Message . . . by Linda T. Cao, D.D.S. – NODA President

Dear NODA members,



A great example is our Give Kids A Smile event that kicked off back in February! February was National Children’s Dental Health Month! I like to thank our dental students leading the GKAS event, Harli and Abby, along with our full-time Pediatric faculty, our pediatric and orthodontic residents, our Hygiene department along with their students that put together a wonderful event that raises awareness for the 70 children from Esperanza School. Kudos to everyone for a fantastic collaborative effort!

Our next 2-hour CE/General Membership meeting will take place March 20, 2024 at Jaeger’s

Seafood & Oyster House. Our speakers, Dr. Katherine Carmona Hernandez and Dr. Eva Gkoulitou will be speaking on the topic “*Management of Complex and Highly Esthetic Cases. Treatment, Planning, and Considerations.*” Please make sure to sign up for this wonderful lecture!

LSU School of Dentistry will host their annual Alumni meeting on April 6, 2024. This is a great event to learn and earn CE certification as well as reuniting with our colleagues and supporting our alumni! Please check the LSUSD website for registration details! It’s great to be a Tiger!

March is upon us and this newsletter will be dedicated to our LSU School of Dentistry’s dental students. We look forward to learning more about what our students will share about their experiences with organized dentistry, charity work, challenges for what’s ahead for their future.

*NODA News* is published every month with the exception of June and August. Deadline for ads and editorial material is the 10th of the month preceding publication. Ads and news should be sent to: [info@nodental.org](mailto:info@nodental.org)

*NODA News* is a publication of the New Orleans Dental Assn., 2121 N. Causeway Blvd., Suite 153, Metairie, LA 70001.  
Phone (504) 834-6449



**Send your school news to:**

**The Tiger’s Tooth Probe!**

...Where students, faculty and administration can submit a photo, news, and/or announcements relating to organized dentistry and charity events at LSUSD! Please submit your entry to both [kmsperio@gmail.com](mailto:kmsperio@gmail.com) and [info@nodental.org](mailto:info@nodental.org).

**Stats For the DDS Class of 2027**

- Of well over 800 applicants, there were just under 80 spots for this dental school class
- The class is 56% female and 44% male
- Average GPA was 3.69 overall
- Average DAT score was 21.0
- Average chalk score was 6.35

# Upcoming Scientific Program

by Gregory P. Guerra, D.D.S. - NODA Scientific Program Committee Chair

DATE   LOCATION   TIME	SPEAKERS   TOPIC   OBJECTIVES	SPONSORS																																
<p><b>March 20, 2024</b></p> <p><b>Jaeger's Seafood &amp; Oyster House</b> 901 South Clearview Parkway Jefferson, LA 70121</p> <p><b>Check In/Dinner:</b> Begin at 6:00pm</p> <p><b>Meeting:</b> 6:30 pm – 8:30pm</p> <p><b>CE:</b> 2.0 clinical hours</p> <p><b>Deadline:</b> March 18, 2024</p> <p><b>Registration:</b> Must register in advance for food guarantee</p> <p><b>Early Registration Fee:</b></p> <table border="0"> <tr><td>Member</td><td>\$0</td></tr> <tr><td>Student</td><td>\$0</td></tr> <tr><td>Resident</td><td>\$0</td></tr> <tr><td>Applicant</td><td>\$0</td></tr> <tr><td>Dentist (non-NODA)</td><td>\$45.00</td></tr> <tr><td>Hygienist</td><td>\$45.00</td></tr> <tr><td>Office staff</td><td>\$45.00</td></tr> <tr><td>Spouse</td><td>\$45.00</td></tr> </table> <p><b>Late Registration Fee:</b></p> <table border="0"> <tr><td>Member</td><td>\$0</td></tr> <tr><td>Student</td><td>\$0</td></tr> <tr><td>Resident</td><td>\$0</td></tr> <tr><td>Applicant</td><td>\$0</td></tr> <tr><td>Dentist (non-NODA)</td><td>\$55.00</td></tr> <tr><td>Hygienist</td><td>\$55.00</td></tr> <tr><td>Office staff</td><td>\$55.00</td></tr> <tr><td>Spouse</td><td>\$55.00</td></tr> </table> <p><b>Registration &amp; Payment:</b> Payment is required with registration, otherwise registration for the meeting is not guaranteed. A 25% administration fee will be applied to any refund request received after Monday, March 18<sup>th</sup>. If applicable, all no shows will be charged. All requests for refunds or cancellations must be received in writing no less than three days prior to the course. Refund requests will not be accepted after this deadline. Registration fees are for this meeting only.</p>	Member	\$0	Student	\$0	Resident	\$0	Applicant	\$0	Dentist (non-NODA)	\$45.00	Hygienist	\$45.00	Office staff	\$45.00	Spouse	\$45.00	Member	\$0	Student	\$0	Resident	\$0	Applicant	\$0	Dentist (non-NODA)	\$55.00	Hygienist	\$55.00	Office staff	\$55.00	Spouse	\$55.00	<p><b>General Membership Meeting &amp; CE Lecture Dinner</b></p> <p><b>Speaker – Dr. Katherine Carmona</b></p> <p>Dr. Carmona earned her DDS degree from the Universidad de Valparaiso School of Dentistry in Chile in 2013. During her training, she completed internships with the Chilean Navy and Air Force. She has specialized in the use of CAD/CAM technologies. After graduation, Dr. Carmona worked as a general dentist at three different private practice clinics, specializing in esthetics. After practicing for 3 years, she decided to pursue her certificate in Periodontics at Andres Bello University in Chile. In 2018, she relocated to New Orleans to join LSU's Department of Periodontics and pursue the Implant Restorative Fellowship Program for two years. Dr. Carmona's passion for continuing education led her to join the residency program at the Department of Periodontics, from which she graduated in June 2023, obtaining her degree of Master of Science in Dentistry and her certificate in Periodontics. Dr. Carmona is currently an associate professor at Louisiana State University, where she teaches postgraduate residents and pre-doctoral students. She has also taken on the role of Director of the Implant Restorative Fellowship Program.</p> <p><b>Speaker – Dr. Eva Gkoulitou</b></p> <p>Dr. Eva Gkoulitou received her DDS from the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, School of Dentistry, in 2019. Following her graduation, she practiced as a general dentist at the Greek Naval Hospital and a private practice clinic, specializing in prosthodontics. With a commitment to education, Dr. Gkoulitou was involved in the fixed prosthodontics classes of the University of Athens, as a laboratory teaching assistant, where she trained students in their first contact with prosthodontics. Furthermore, she participated in several projects which led to publications and conference presentations. Driven for a passion for prosthodontics, Dr. Gkoulitou moved to New Orleans in 2021, for her residency at the Prosthodontics Department of LSU.</p> <p><b>Topic – "Management of Complex and Highly Esthetic Cases: Treatment Planning and Considerations."</b></p> <p>In this lecture, we will focus on the importance of precise treatment planning to achieve optimal outcomes in tooth-borne and implant restorations in the esthetic zone. A comprehensive interdisciplinary treatment approach is crucial for laying a solid foundation for optimal esthetics. We will introduce essential considerations and key factors, such as the number and distribution of implants, restoration materials and design, as well as the health and long-term stability of hard and soft tissues. With the evolution of dentistry and the increasing integration of digital technology in dental practice, we can enjoy enhanced treatment predictability and workflow efficiency, as well as improved patient education and communication.</p> <p><b>Learning objectives:</b> The presenters aim in this lecture:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) To highlight the importance of meticulous treatment planning, ensuring predictability and achieving the best possible outcomes in the esthetic area.</li> <li>2) To emphasize the significance of interdisciplinary approach contributing to the outcome longevity of esthetic cases, involving tooth-borne and implant restorations.</li> <li>3) To present considerations and precautions regarding the implants number, distribution, restoration material and soft tissue health.</li> </ol>	<p><b>Ad-Com International, DBA, The Coach Otto</b> Otto Mehrgut, Dental Coach Specialty: Rescuing inactive patients and helping dentists obtain new implant business 504/232-7912 (cell) 985/869-5186 (office) otto@thecoachotto.com www.thecoachotto.com</p> <p><b>Hancock Whitney</b> Patrick McKenna Vice President Business Banker Phone: 504/586-3505 Cell: 504/352-3770 patrick.mckenna@hancockwhitney.com www.hancockwhitney.com</p> <p><b>New Orleans Dental Enterprises</b> Dr. Kevin J. Collins Committee Chair 504/834-6449 collinskevinjdds@bellsouth.net www.nodental.org/preferred-providers</p>
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## WE WANT YOUR NEWS!!

Anyone knowing of any dentist who has made a significant contribution, gained an elective or appointive office, written an article, delivered a paper, or rendered unusual public service, please let us know! [info@nodental.org](mailto:info@nodental.org)



*Students have fun at LSUSD functions.*

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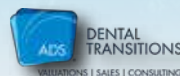
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## What Student Leaders are Thinking

- 1.) *How do you expect organized dentistry to support you in your dental career after graduation?*
- 2.) *How have student organizations on LSUHSC Dental campus enriched your personal or professional development throughout dental school?*



*Brooke Badeaux –  
ASDA District 5 Trustee  
LSUSD Class of 2025*

Student organizations on the LSUHSC Dental Campus have done more than I could have imagined for my personal and professional development. They have pushed me to be a better leader and introduced me to remarkable people who I am now grateful to call friends, mentors, and colleagues. They have taught me the importance of Advocacy as well as having a support system within organized dentistry. I have received such a large amount of knowledge on the scope of dentistry because of these organizations; they do a great job of teaching us outside of the classroom. Because of my involvement in student organizations, I can look forward to what organized dentistry will do in my professional career after graduation. I know that I will be able to go to the LDA or ADA for support in the future with any situation I may be facing. The network of the LDA/ADA has been incredible so far, and it is reassuring to know this will continue as I transition from student to dentist.

I expect Organized Dentistry to represent me as my voice in both the state and national political realms. I believe they should be the voice of the little guys, I.E. the solo and partner practices. Student Organizations such as ASDA and AGD have allowed me the opportunity to meet so many people from other schools and states, and through these connections I have grown in the ways I communicate with my patients along with the ways I handle procedures.

Taylor Trawick served as ASDA Advocacy Committee Chair in 2022-2023.



*Taylor Trawick –  
ASDA District 5  
Director of Development  
LSUSD Class of 2024*

Organized dentistry allows us to use our collective voice to express our needs and concerns to our lawmakers. This is necessary to maintain a level of autonomy in dentistry; a facet of our careers that many of our healthcare counterparts do not have. My experience with organized dentistry thus far has shown me that there is power in numbers. By coming together, we can create positive changes that benefit us, our staff, and most importantly, our patients.

Student organizations such as LSU ASDA and LSU AGD have catapulted my personal and professional growth. My involvement in these organizations have encouraged me to stay involved and active in my community. They have also provided me opportunities to supplement my dental education through various continuing education courses and lunch and learns. I can say, with absolute certainty, that I would not be the person I am today without these organizations.



*Sarah Dawson – DDS Candidate,  
Chair for the ASDA  
Sustainability Committee  
LSUSD Class of 2025*



*Logan N. Johnson – DDS Candidate,  
Director of Membership,  
ASDA District 5  
LSUSD Class of 2024*

I have been an active member in the American Student Dental Association (ASDA) since my first day of dental school, where I progressed from serving as a member on the Pre-Dental Committee, to being the Pre-Dental Committee Chairman, to spending my final year as ASDA D5's Director of Membership: overseeing the Pre-Dental Committees of seven dental schools across the southeastern United States and Puerto Rico. ASDA has allowed me to dedicate my time increasing student engagement in organized dentistry at the state, district, and national levels, along with providing advice for pre-dental students looking to apply to dental school.

As I look forward to moving into private practice in July, with hopes to eventually join part-time academia, I believe my leadership roles, professional growth, and time spent networking as a colleague and mentor while being involved in student organizations at LSUSD, will allow me to positively impact the lives of my patients, fellow colleagues, and students for years to come.

**Future Plans:** Associate Dentist, Greg Phillips & Associates  
Lutcher, Louisiana

## What Student Leaders are Thinking . . .

(Continued from Pgs. 4-5)



*Tiffany Morgan – DDS Candidate,  
ASDA Immediate Past President  
LSUSD Class of 2024*

My involvement in ASDA throughout my four years here at LSUHSC School of Dentistry serving as ASDA D1 Representative, Vice President, President, and finally Immediate Past-President, have enriched both my personal and professional growth outside of the typical dental school experience. I have a passion for leadership and passing along the knowledge and experience I have gained to incoming dental students with the hopes of igniting their passion for student leadership and advocacy. LSU ASDA has been an incredible resource for communicating the value of involvement in organized dentistry through our active presence on campus and programming such as: ASDA fever Week for incoming dental students, lunch and learns on a variety of topics, the vendor fair, ASDA national convention scholarships, and Dentist Day at the Legislature to name a few. I have been blessed with incredible opportunities, networking experiences with other dental professionals, and friendships over these last four years. All of which would not have been possible without the vision and dedication of the ASDA Executive committee and the participation of our active student members. I urge all dental students and aspiring leaders to attend the ASDA National Leadership Convention in Chicago. The breadth of influence accomplished by dental students across the country is inspiring. The dental community is a passionate one, and I intend to seek knowledge, support, and inspiration for continued professional growth as a member of organized dentistry after graduation. The sanctity of the dental profession depends on young leaders to educate the public, our patients, and also lawmakers on the importance of allowing dentists the autonomy to deliver care in the best interest of our patients.

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## Why to be involved as a Young Dentist

by Jeffrey Kerst, D.D.S.



I wish we didn't need organized dentistry. I wish that dentistry didn't have outside entities trying to interfere with our ability to care for patients and make a good living. I wish that I could get back the countless hours spent preserving

the profession since being a D1. However, that is not a luxury in my lifetime. Involvement in organized dentistry affords the opportunity to decide our future for ourselves. Nobody knows dentistry like us. There is no other way to influence the profession that so many of us invested time and resources in. That being said, it must be protected.

To continue protecting and advancing our field, young dentists, now more than ever, must take on a leadership role, make your voice heard, and ensure that you invest your time, treasures, or talents responsibly. Otherwise, your career path will be decided for you by individuals who don't understand what you're doing.

What are some tangible ways to step up to do your part in our field? The simplest: be a member. If you don't like the direction of the Association, then run for an elected

position and change it. The direction of this Association and of dentistry is decided by those willing to share their voice and their time. I've never been one to say "woe is me" and stick my head in the sand, and I know many other private practice solo and partner offices exist just like mine does.

I'm 31 years old. I'm happily married. I have a 13-month-old and another on the way. I own a private practice. I have student loan debt. My golf game is abysmal due to the lack of hours on the course. I understand that it can be hard to find the time or the resources to volunteer. I have spent the last 10 years often as the only early-career dentist in the room.

But, until my mind and my voice gives out, my heart and soul will be poured into ensuring my voice speaks for those who I am blessed to call my friends and colleagues.

## LSUSD Alumni Board President is Proud of School's Legacy

by Dr. William B. Grand - Alumni Board President

As the Alumni Board President, I am filled with immense pride in witnessing the dedication and accomplishments of each one of you. Your journey through dental school is a testament to your hard work, passion, and commitment to the field of dentistry. It is truly gratifying to see the next generation of dental professionals shaping the future of oral healthcare.

I want to take this moment to express my heartfelt congratulations on reaching this significant milestone. Your achievements reflect not only your individual capabilities but also the collaborative efforts

of our esteemed institution. As you embark on your professional careers, please know that the Alumni Board is here to support you every step of the way. Whether you seek guidance, mentorship, or simply a connection with fellow alumni, our doors are always open.

Your success is not just a personal triumph but a source of inspiration for future dental students. I encourage you to continue pursuing excellence and making a positive impact in the world of dentistry. Remember that you are now part of a network of accomplished professionals, and



together, we can contribute to the advancement of dental healthcare.

Once again, congratulations on your achievements, and I look forward to witnessing your continued success.

## LSUSD Student Leadership Hosts American Student Dental Association District 5 Conference win the Crescent City!

by Brooke Badeaux – ASDA District 5 Trustee, LSUSD Class of 2025



*Pictured: Dr. Mark Donald (ADA Speaker of the House), Dr. Rudy Liddell (ADA District 17 Trustee), Dr. Brett Kessler (ADA President Elect), Brooke Badeaux (ASDA District 5 Trustee), Mikaela Gisch (ASDA District 6 Trustee), Natalie Benkandil (ASDA District 4 Trustee), and Chris Elkhall (ASDA National Vice-President). These were special guests present at the District 5 Conference. They mingled with students all weekend and had a great time representing the ADA and ASDA nationally.*

LSU is a part of the District 5 American Student Dental Association along with the University of Mississippi, the University of Alabama at Birmingham, the University of Florida, LECOM, NOVA Southeastern, and the University of Puerto Rico. There is an annual district conference each year, and this year, the District 5 Conference was held in New Orleans, Louisiana. The District 5 Conference is planned by the District 5 Trustee and their events planning committee. This year, the District 5 Trustee was Brooke Badeaux, a third-year dental student at LSU, and the events planning team consisted of the following students: Harli Jacob (LSU), Caitlin Denton (LSU), Justin Nguyen (LSU), Abby Goff (LSU), Golzar Pahlevani (NOVA Southeastern), Keegan Hahn (LECOM), and Carter Bedinghaus (LECOM). Together they worked to plan an incredible conference for over 215 dental students. They raised over \$130,000, created an itinerary with specific sponsors/speakers, planned socials for Friday and Saturday nights, and worked closely with The Westin New Orleans to make this weekend possible. This year's theme for the District 5 Conference was "Discover Your Drive: Leading With Purpose." This

*Continued on Pg. 9*



*Pictured from left to right, back to front: Justin Nguyen (LSU), Abby Goff (LSU), Caitlin Denton (LSU), Keegan Hahn (LECOM), Golzar Pahlevani (NOVA), Brooke Badeaux (LSU), Harli Jacob (LSU). The District 5 Conference Events Planning Committee. They worked incredibly hard to make the 2024 conference a success.*



# Student Dental Association District 5 Conference . . .

*Continued from Pg. 8*

theme was chosen to illustrate that professional success stems from personal growth and development. Every current dental student will be a leader in their practice one day for their patients and their staff. The speakers were planned accordingly and focused on various topics such as leading with emotional intelligence, treating patients with special needs, how to build a start-up practice, the purpose of medical malpractice insurance, financial guidance, and how to overcome both personal and professional trials. The students were encouraged to listen, reflect, and take home a few things that inspired them to become the best version of themselves.

The students arrived at The Westin on Friday evening and checked in at the conference registration desk where they received a welcome box and their name tags for the weekend. They attended a welcome social at The Westin with music and had time to connect with other students, doctors, and sponsors.

On Saturday morning, there



*Pictured: LSU Dental Students at the Mardi Gras themed socials at Lucy's on Saturday night. There was a photobooth as well as authentic Louisiana Mardi Gras beads.*

was an optional wellness walk/run around downtown New Orleans hosted by the Westin. The students ate breakfast and then attended their first General Session with opening remarks from Brooke Badeaux and an opening keynote from Dr. Jeffery Johnson, as well as other sponsors.

Before lunch they heard from Dr. Jeffery Kerst, an LSU alumni, and Dr. Brett Kessler, the current president-elect of the ADA. After lunch they attended more general sessions and breakout sessions on finances, signing contracts, and

*Continued on Pg. 10*



*Pictured: Students from the LSU Dental School Class of 2025 at the Westin during the Welcome Social on Friday night.*

# Student Dental Association District 5 Conference . . .

*Continued from Pg. 9*

Q&A panels. In the early afternoon, there was a “Sip and Stroll” vendor fair and snack break. The students were able to grab a refreshment and try authentic New Orleans snacks (King Cake, Beignets, and Pralines) as they walked around, made connections, and tried products from 30+ vendors. The energy was electric! There was a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion information table, an Advocacy information table, and a Community Service table. Here, the students were able to make hygiene bags with dental supplies to donate to a local homeless shelter in New Orleans, Ozanam Inn.

After the vendor fair, all of the students gathered in the general session again to learn about building a start-up and treating special needs patients with Dr. Jacob Dent, a Louisiana native. Afterward, a quick game was played displaying “New Orleans” words on the screen and asking non-LSU students to do their best to pronounce them. The

entire room was filled with laughter and excitement as “Atchafalya” and “Pontchartrain” were attempted. The students were then dismissed to attend dinner on their own and gather at Lucy’s Retired Surfers Bar and Restaurant for a Mardi Gras-themed social. The students were able to pick out authentic, Louisiana Mardi Gras beads and had a great time mingling, singing, and dancing all night.

On Sunday, the students gathered for breakfast and the closing keynote presentation from LSU’s own Dr. Kitrina Cordell on Unexpected Paths in Dentistry. The District 5 Awards Ceremony took place afterward, followed by closing remarks. It was an incredible weekend, and we have heard such positive feedback about the speakers, guests, and atmosphere. We are so grateful to every person, sponsor, and guest who attended. Some of the special guests included: Dr. Mark Donald, ADA Speaker of the House, Dr.

Rudy Liddell, ADA District 17 Trustee, Dr. AC Liles, and Dr. Kay Jordan. These doctors helped to make this weekend so special and made the events planning team and LSU students feel supported.

Here are some pictures from the weekend. We hope you enjoy and thank you for your support of our endeavors! Photos courtesy of *Salma Atassi (NOVA)*, *Ryan Bastyr (LECOM)*, *Olivia Jane Wilks (LSU)*, *Dr. Kristi Soileau*.



*Pictured: District 5 Community Service table where hygiene supplies was bagged to donate to New Orleans’ Ozanam Inn. Arsis E’Etessam (District 5 Community Service Chair) and Brooke Badeaux (District 5 Trustee).*

*Continued on Pg. 11*



*Pictured: LSU Dental Students Class of 2027. Tommy Nguyen, Alex McClellan, Jordan Latham, Alexander Gioe, Matthew Weimer, Taufiq Khaled, Marie Seicshnaydre, Julia Akin, and Kylie Madere.*

*Pictured (bottom right): Students at the vendor fair on Saturday afternoon.*



## Student Dental Association District 5 Conference . . .

*Continued from Pg. 10*



*Pictured: Dental Student winning raffle for saying the word, "Atchafalaya" correctly.*



*Pictured: Daniel Bobbitt (UAB) and Brooke Badeaux (LSU) during the Awards Ceremony on Sunday morning.*



*Dr. Kitrina Cordell lectures to ASDA on Sunday.*

## Annual White Coat Ceremony Celebrates Transition to Clinical Focus

In the second year of dental school, LSUSD students acknowledge and commit to the standards of professionalism and ethics during their annual White Coat Ceremony, which marks their transition from classroom student to clinician.

This past year, LDA President Dr. Vincent DiLeo, Jr. presented the keynote address, after which faculty members presented the white coats to members of the class, which composed its own honor code for the ceremony. This past year's ceremony was held on September 29.





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## LDA and LSUSD Mentorship Program

The LSU School of Dentistry Mentoring Program matches LSU School of Dentistry students with mentor dentists who are active members of the Louisiana Dental Association. The Mentoring Program gives students a valuable opportunity to connect with and learn from LDA dentists. It offers dentists the opportunity to share advice and expertise with future members of their profession.



### Who Is Eligible?

- LSU School of Dentistry dental students
- LDA active member dentists from anywhere in the state

### Program Expectations:

The Mentorship Program is mostly self-guided, emphasizing mentor/mentee communication in whichever method works best for you. To ensure a successful mentor-student match, LDA asks participants to review the program guidelines.

### LDA asks that our mentor dentists:

- Commit to mentoring their student(s) for no less than two consecutive years.
- Remain a member of the LDA through their time in the program.
- Invite students to meet in person at other LDA events (continuing education seminars, Dentists' Day at the Legislature, etc.) or through self-scheduled meetups (mentor dinners, coffee meetings, office shadowing opportunities, etc.) throughout the year.
- Reach out regularly to connect through phone and email when in-person meetings are not possible.

### Mentorship Program FAQs

- What is the Mentorship Program?
- What are the goals of the Mentorship Program?
- How does the Mentorship Program work?
- What is a mentor?
- What can a mentor do for a mentee?
- What is a mentee?
- What are the basics of every mentor/mentee relationship?
- What if the relationship doesn't work?

## Ethics Education Should be Available for Pre-Dental Societies

by Alex F. Ha and Rivers Singley

The American Student Dental Association (ASDA), a pivotal force in fostering unity and leadership among pre-dental societies, emphasizes the unique benefits of membership for every pre-dental student. The organization boasts a Pre-dental Advisory Committee (PAC), led by a pre-dental consultant as Chair, guiding the ASDA Council on Membership. The consultant, funded to attend the National ASDA Leadership Conference annually in Chicago, exemplifies ASDA's commitment to early exposure to professionalism for pre-dental students. ASDA encourages pre-dentistry students to engage locally, regionally, and nationally, asserting that membership opens avenues otherwise inaccessible. At the recent LAMOM in Lafayette, during discussions among dental students and pre-dental volunteers, a shared realization emerged—that there has been an absence of dialogue on dental ethics in their undergraduate and pre-dental society experiences, which prompted a collective opinion that pre-dental societies should integrate more discussions on ethics in dentistry.

Professional education in



*Pre-dental and pre-hygiene students working at Lafayette LA MOM*

dentistry aims to produce dentists committed to ethical treatment, underscoring the importance of teaching professional ethics in dental education. However, one survey that was conducted in 1998 revealed incidents of academic dishonesty in several dental schools, further supporting the need for a more robust ethical foundation for those aiming to be dentists, both in dental schools as well as at the pre dental level.

ASDA has undertaken an impressive initiative with its Pre-dental Organization Toolkit, a comprehensive resource featuring an exemplary Table of Contents. It provides a sample Constitution, guidance on meeting minutes,

budget maintenance, team-building events, and advice on securing shadowing opportunities and successful interviews. However, another prudent move would be to involve incorporating more dental ethics information into this toolkit.

Further, collaboration amongst ASDA, the ADA's Council on Ethics, Bylaws, and Judicial Affairs, the ACD, ADEA, and state executive directors can help ensure adequate widespread availability of ethical education materials, hence supporting an early understanding of dental ethical problem-solving and emphasizing ethics as the foundation of professionalism in healthcare.

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# Why Membership Matters

by Colin Zvosec – LDA Director of Membership Development

**C**ongratulations, you did it! After four long years, you are finally ready to start your career. At some point, maybe it's upon graduation, maybe it's several years down the line, you're going to stop and consider the importance of membership in the LDA, ADA, and NODA. Now, you might be someone who took advantage of the excellent rates on life and disability insurance offered through the ADA by Protective and saved hundreds on quality insurance. Maybe you used the great savings offered through ASDA at businesses like Office Depot, UPS, or Lenovo. Maybe you don't need a reminder of what all membership, and organized dentistry, provides. But just in case, here is a rundown of what organized dentistry can do for you as you establish yourself in the field.

## C.E.

You need C.E., and we've got C.E. Whether it's offerings at the local, state, or national level, there's something for everyone. Just as an example, you could accrue your 30 hours just by going to the New Orleans Dental Conference (NODC), taking the LDA's last chance course in December, hitting up a couple of NODA meetings, and finding your topic of choice via the ADA website. You can easily save hundreds of dollars, and possibly cover the entire cost of your membership from the year on C.E. savings alone.

## Endorsed Companies

If you're an associate or a practice owner, you'll want to utilize our endorsed companies through Louisiana Dental Services.

By using 5 companies every dentist needs: Fortress, TDSC, Office Depot, Medical Waste Management, and Best Card, you could save over \$8,000 in just one year. Dentists need dental supplies, and you should *absolutely* be using TDSC. Multiple LDA members have saved over \$20,000 in just one year ordering through TDSC. In 2023, LDA members saved an average of \$3,112.48 per shopper on their dental supplies.

The savings extend beyond the office, too! Need to ship something? You can save up to 50% by going through UPS. Need appliances for your home? GE offers members up to 25% off MSRP. Have student loans or are looking to buy a house? Talk to Laurel Road about their offers to members when it comes to student loan refinancing or mortgage rates. There truly is something for everyone, and to list them all out would take up more space than allotted (reach out to me if you want the full list at [colin@ladental.org](mailto:colin@ladental.org) or visit [www.ladental.org/LDS](http://www.ladental.org/LDS)).

## Professional Protection

Among the many benefits of membership are some that you may not see every day. The LDA and your peers involved in organized dentistry are fighting every day to make sure outside influences do not take over our profession. Specifically, in regard to students, during the COVID pandemic, the LDA secured an emergency rule so that 2020 dental school graduates could start working with provisional licenses. Additionally, in just the last few years, the LDA's advocacy efforts

have resulted in...

- A \$52 million dental Medicaid increase,
- \$48 million for the LSU Health New Orleans School of Dentistry infrastructure modernization project,
- An extension of the dental hygiene program at LSUA in response to the hygienist shortage,
- Legislation regarding network leasing,
- Legislation prohibiting the denial of claims based upon preexisting conditions, and
- Legislation preventing downcoding of certain procedures.

In 2024, the LDA tackles one of its biggest challenges yet: filing a dental MLR bill. MLR refers to "medical loss ratio," which means that dental insurance companies will be forced to spend a certain amount of premium revenue on patient care AND NOT on things like executive bonuses.

A strong membership base is vital to these legislative successes, so whether you are at the Capitol, texting/calling your legislators, or just a dues paying member that stays out of the political fray and goes about your business, you still have a major impact on these legislative goals.

## A Sense of Community

Lastly, membership in the LDA can provide all dentists with a real community. This concept is particularly true on the state and local level, as we saw firsthand during the COVID Pandemic

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## Why Membership Matters . . .

*Continued from Pg. 15*

shutdown. The LDA was in constant communication with members via text and email to keep them informed of their work status, eventually helping dentists get back to work sooner than any other state in the country. In January of 2021, when the first COVID vaccine became available for healthcare workers, the LDA and all nine local components sprang into action to set up locations for members and their staff to get the vaccine all over the state. The bottom line is the LDA is always looking out for what's best for the profession, and that's only possible with a strong membership base.

Membership provides something for everyone, and the LDA is

constantly working to protect the profession. And if there is something you don't see happening, get involved! The great thing about organized dentistry is that individuals CAN affect change, but it won't happen from the sidelines. Become a member. Get involved locally by serving in a leadership role. Become a council or committee rep for any of the LDA's nine councils and committees. Sign up for the LDA's new Leadership Academy and get a behind the scenes look at what it means to be a part of organized dentistry. YOU can shape the profession's future, and the first step is membership in the LDA.

**WE WANT YOUR NEWS!!**

**Anyone knowing of any dentist who has made a significant contribution, gained an elective or appointive office, written an article, delivered a paper, or rendered unusual public service, please let us know!  
info@nodental.org**



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## 2024 In Full Swing

Dr. Janet Southerland, VCAA LSUHSC - Interim Dean LSUSD



The first few months of the year are always a busy time at the LSU Health School of Dentistry. Several significant events have taken place, admissions are finalizing for next year's entering class, and seniors are preparing for graduation.

Our students are as committed as ever to leaving a positive impact on LSUSD for future oral health providers. Through member engagement, philanthropy events, advocacy and education our student groups like the LSU American Student Dental Association (ASDA) continue to lead the way. The group was recently selected as district finalists for ASDA's Gold Crown Award. To be recognized in this category the ASDA chapter must excel in all six of the Gold Crown categories: member engagement and value, community service, advocacy, health & wellness, member communications and professional development & leadership. One Gold Crown ASDA Chapter is selected from 11 district finalists. The Gold Crown ASDA Chapter will receive a \$1,000

monetary award.

The Academy of General Dentistry awarded the LSU AGD Student Chapter with its "Chapter of the Year Award" for 2023. In 2023, the chapter was able to increase its membership by more than 50% and was able to offer nine continuing education sessions.

With student driven leadership and support, LSUSD also hosted our annual "Give Kids a Smile" event. LSUSD dental and dental hygiene faculty, along with dental students, residents and dental hygiene students teamed up to screen local school children and apply sealants as needed. The 2024 theme was "Your Smile Is Out of This World". In addition to the dental screenings, children were treated to educational programming, arts and crafts. The children engaged with students and modeled oral hygiene instruction. They even received a visit from the tooth fairy.

With regard to admissions, the incoming 2024 class has been finalized. Out of 1,100 applicants, 108 were interviewed and 75 were selected. With an average grade point average of 3.65 and an average DAT score of 21, competition for acceptance continues to be very competitive. Dental hygiene and dental laboratory technology

admission interviews are happening now.

On May 16<sup>th</sup>, LSUSD will celebrate our graduates with the LSUHSC at the 150<sup>th</sup> Commencement Exercises. The degree candidates include 79 dental, 37 dental hygiene, and 3 dental laboratory technology students.

A special thanks to our partners at the New Orleans Dental Association and Louisiana Dental Association. Soon we will team up to welcome leaders in dental education and research to New Orleans. Conferences for the American Dental Education Association (ADEA) and The International Association for Dental, Oral and Craniofacial Research will be hosted at the Convention Center in New Orleans this March.

We will also welcome our alumni back to campus this year. I want to invite you to attend our Alumni Day 2024 programming on April 6<sup>th</sup>. Save the date for a day of continuing education, fun and camaraderie.

We look forward to more success in 2024 and beyond!

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## Remembering ...

by Ray Calvert

**Photographer of the faculty and dedication photos - Mr. Bill Stallworth**

*From the collection of Mr. Ray Calvert.*

**R**enowned New Orleans artist, Mr. Ray Calvert recalls his earlier days in the art department at a new LSU dental school.

When I applied to the state civil service for a medical illustrator position, I was graded on my application. For the last five years I worked for the Boeing Company at the Michoud Assembly Facility. The department consisted of about 12 engineers and 28 illustrators who produced tech manuals for the S-IC, the first stage of the Apollo program rocket to land men on the moon. Previously, I had been a staff artist for a trade journal publication for two years. During all my tenure in the workplace, I worked as a fine artist, exhibiting work in local and national venues.

It was a cloudy, gray day, March 2, 1970, when I began working at LSUSD. I would replace Carolyn Martel who was going to Baylor University. Loyola University was



*Group photo of LSU faculty and staff, September 1968.*

planning a dental school building to be located on the corner Canal and LaSalle Streets. Plans changed. Loyola dental program began phasing out in 1966. As one class graduated from Loyola, LSUSD would add an incoming class. There were two classes, freshman and sophomore consisting of circa thirty students each. The dental school was operating in former U.S. Navy barracks buildings. The faculty consisted of personnel from the University of Kentucky and Loyola University among others.

My section, art, was part of the Department of Learning Resources. The other sections were television and photography. Each section operated independently or together. What kind of art did the department do? Charts, graphs, medical illustrations calligraphy, student and faculty id boards, posters, slides, retouching photos by airbrush, illustrations for journal articles, even a portrait, booklets and programs. It was a privilege to do a calligraphic invitation for

*Continued on Pg. 19*



*Louisiana State University School of Dentistry Dedication Ceremonies - February 18, 1972.*

## Remembering ...

*Continued from Pg. 18*

the dedication of the school on February 18, 1972.

Before the arrival of a computer in the early 1990s, there was special equipment to assist the artists. By and large, everything needed to be hand done. As the school began to grow, so the various departments including the art department. Mostly, there were two artists, and at one point three. Over the years there were six different individuals who assisted and three typesetters. After my retirement in 1999, the department had two artists in succession. Computers began to proliferate.

After 29 years as head of the art department, I retired on June 30, 1999. The very next day, I found myself sitting in a doctor's office and waiting for my wife, Ellen. I began sketching for a commission of six icons for a polyptych altar piece for



*The Editor wishes to thank Mr. Ray Calvert for his willingness to author a short remembrance of his time spent at LSUSD.*



*Mr. Calvert working in the art department at his officedesk in "the barracks" before the School was completed.*

a local church. The next stage of my art was to paint Byzantine icons for churches and chapels. Twenty-five years has passed since then. As I sit at the computer writing this article, I look back and think how fortunate I have been to contribute to creating

beautiful things in the fine art and graphic arts, also.

*The Editor wishes to thank Mr. Ray Calvert for his willingness to author a short remembrance of his time spent at LSUSD.*



*Eager anticipation as the dream nears reality.*

## LDA/ADA Advocacy for Student Debt Relief

by Annette Droddy –  
LDA Executive Director

As a dentist, each stage of your career brings unique challenges. Both the ADA and LDA are concerned with the current trend all over the country of high student debt coming out of dental school and hope to work with our members to alleviate the stress of paying off this debt.

One consideration is student loan refinancing. Laurel Road is endorsed by both the ADA and LDA. Join the 4,000 other LDA/ADA dentists who have taken control of their student loan debt by refinancing through Laurel Road. Qualifying LDA members receive a 0.30% rate reduction on Laurel Road's already low rates for the life of the loan, plus an additional 0.25% rate discount when monthly payments are made automatically from a bank account. Additionally, LDA members receive a free 30-minute student loan consultation from the Laurel Road experts. Interested members should call 833 427.2265 or visit [LaurelRoad.com/ADA](http://LaurelRoad.com/ADA).

Additionally, the ADA works with the states to support many pieces of federal legislation that would help to alleviate student loan debt for dental students and dentists.

One bill in particular is the Resident Education Deferred Interest Act (REDI) (H.R. 1202 and S. 704), which would allow dental and medical students to defer interest and payments while they are in their residency programs. This bill is both bipartisan and bicameral and if enacted could result in thousands to tens of thousands of dollars in savings for dental students and



*More than 700 dentists, dental students, state association staff, and dental leaders gathered in Washington, D.C., at the ADA Dentist and Student Lobby Day in 2023. The purpose was to advocate on topics the attendees will be presenting during their visits to Capitol Hill such as dental insurance reform, student loan debt, and improving Medicaid dental programs. The event is jointly hosted with the American Student Dental Association (ASDA). Attendees representing Louisiana, from left, LDA Executive Director Annette Droddy, Dr. Gary Roberts, Dr. Gizelle Richard, staff member from Representative Mike Johnson's office, Wyatt Vanlangendonck, Brooke Badeau, Brooklyn Noble, and Paul Richard.*

new graduates.

To view the ADA's FAQs on the REDI Act visit <https://www.ada.org/advocacy/legislative-action-center/student-loan-reform>.

The ADA also supports numerous federal loan forgiveness and repayment options including, but not limited to, the Public

Service Loan Forgiveness Program, the National Health Service Corps' Students to Service Program, the Faculty Loan Repayment Program and the Indian Health Service Loan Repayment Program. The ADA will continue to advocate to fully fund these programs.

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## LDA Leadership Academy

*Hosted by the LDA's Council on the New Dentist*

The goal of the Leadership Academy is to identify and prepare potential future officers for positions of leadership on the national, state, and local component levels. This program is available to all LDA members, regardless of time spent in the dental field. *The initial class will include a maximum of one 1 candidate nominated and sponsored by each of the 9 LDA components. Subsequent classes may include no more than 3 candidates from any one component. In order to qualify, candidates must be a current member of the LDA. They cannot have served as president of their local component or as a member of the LDA Board of Directors.*

### Commitments and Requirements

We expect candidates to attend each event and complete the required ADA leadership webinars (all free to members). **Attendance is mandatory for graduation from the LDA Leadership Academy.** Absence from more

than one full session or failure to complete the online sections will render the candidate ineligible for graduation. If you are expecting to be unavailable for any of the scheduled dates, please notify the LDA in advance at colin@ladental.org. **There is no tuition required for participation.** Candidates must provide their own transportation and lodging expenses (if needed). However, components may choose to cover any transportation expenses if their leadership desires to do so. **Applicants must submit their application/nomination forms to the LDA no later than December 1, 2024.**

### 2025 Curriculum and Schedule

**Complete the following online C.E. courses prior to HOD/"graduation" (March/April 2026):** (ADA leadership webinars TBD) You will receive 1 practice management CE credit from the ADA upon successful completion of each course.

### Attend these events:

**April/May 2025** – Dentist's Day at the Legislature/orientation

(Baton Rouge)

**June 2025** – LDA board meeting (Baton Rouge)

**September 2025** – LDA board meeting (Baton Rouge)

**November 2025** – CGA meeting (Baton Rouge)

**December 2025** – CMDP meeting (conference call)

**January 2026** – Bowden Leadership conference (Baton Rouge)

**March/April 2026** – HOD / "Graduation" (New Orleans) Attendance is Mandatory (participants will be encouraged to serve as delegates).

If you are expecting to be unavailable for any of the scheduled dates, please notify the LDA in advance at colin@ladental.org. LDA Leadership Academy Interest Form can be found on the LDA website (www.ladental.org). LDA Member, if you have interest in the LDA Leadership Academy, please fill out the form on the ladental.org website and direct any additional questions to colin@ladental.org.

## Look No Further

*by Andrew Hale – NODA Executive Director*

**H**ave you heard of the New Orleans Dental Association (NODA), Louisiana Dental Association (LDA) and the American Dental Association (ADA)? They are collectively called the tripartite of dentistry. There are numerous services available to dentists by joining in organized dentistry. A great wealth of information and knowledge exists to help guide dentists in their career paths of dentistry. Numerous networking opportunities are provided through both your local (NODA) and

your state dental society (LDA). Membership benefits are offered, tangible and intangible, through advocacy benefits.

Each level of membership offers special advantages and perks to dentists investing in organized dentistry, such as newsletters and journals, health insurance, peer review, continuing education, legislative lobbying, patient referral services, annual conferences & sessions and social activities. There are councils and committees made up of volunteer dentists, essential

"think tanks", who come together to propose new ideas of how to handle issues consistent with the standards of the profession.

Organized dentistry invites dentists to be part of that community which provides the support for dentists as they continue to learn and develop their professional skills and cement new relationships with their colleagues. By your being involved in organized dentistry, you can bring positive change for the future. Together, with one voice, we can be heard.

## Benefits of Being an LDA/ADA Member for Life!

Members are often surprised by how many great services and products are available just by being a tripartite member. Some are available at no cost, and others have great discounts. Many utilizing just a few of these benefits find that they save more than the cost of their annual dues! And as an added, bonus, new graduate, get free dues early in their careers; don't hesitate to call or write NODA/LDA/ADA for more information!

### Discounted continue education and events

NODA and LDA offer members excellence in continuing education such as the New Orleans Dental Conference/LDA Annual Session. LDA also offers member rates on their Winter CE programs such as at Disney World Resorts, cruises, and ski trips. They also offer continued education in Summer at coastal resorts, that can be combined with family vacation fun. Also look for the Annual Fishing Rodeo in Grand Isle, LA, Last Chance CE each December, and more!

### Endorsed products and services

Tripartite members receive discounts on products and services offered by quality companies, endorsed by their subsidiaries. NODA, LDA, and ADA each offer their own member exclusive programs for products and services, including significant discounts, such as for professional property and liability insurance products (see "insurance coverage", below), office supplies, merchant credit card, fees, life and disability insurances, and more. Reach out to each one to see what amazing benefits there are in store for you!

### Government affairs

ADA/LDA members stay at the forefront of government, middle issues, and her and legislative and regulatory forms in and meant are not possible for individual dentist. Political action committees, such as ADPAC and LADPAC, through their fundraising efforts from members, help dentistry maintain a powerful voice state and federal governmental arenas. Getting involved in these programs, you can make a difference to your own career and to the dental profession in general!

### Well-Being Committee

Assisting members with chemical dependency or substitute abuse problems is a serious goal of the tripartite. More information can be found at [www.ladental.org](http://www.ladental.org).

### Insurance coverage

The LDA-endorsed insurance company, Brown and Brown Association, offers competitive prices on major medical, long-term disability, long-term care, business overhead expense, personal excess "umbrella" coverage, professional liability, business office package, and other services. The ADA has well-researched plans that also offer huge discounts for disability and life insurance, which all dentists should seriously consider maintaining. Do you know that LSU students get free coverage in certain vital insurance programs before as well as just after graduation? Don't hesitate to call to see how this benefit can be of immense consolation and comfort to you!

### Peer review and mediation

LDA members have free access to the LDA's statewide peer review and mediation program. This allows the dentist, patient, and third-party payors to resolve legal differences, which saves time and money, and oftentimes the need to go to court. The Louisiana State Board of Dentistry recognizes the results of cases mediated through peer review, and refers patients with complaints to the LDA.

### Communications

The LDA informs members of events and information affecting the practice of dentistry through its quarterly, LDA Journal and monthly (or as needed) E-Byes email newsletter. Subscriptions to both the monthly Journal of the American Dental Association (JADA) and biweekly ADA News are also included in your ADA membership. The websites [www.ladental.org](http://www.ladental.org) and [www.ada.org](http://www.ada.org) allow members to have instant access to all association information via members-only password-protected links and resources!

# Benefits of Being an LDA/ADA Member for Life! . . .

*Continued from Pg. 22*

### LDA Relief Fund

Temporary, limited assistance to dentists experiencing extreme financial difficulties due to illness, disability, or natural disasters is available through this program.

### Networking

Through various LDA, ADA, and local NODA component – sponsored events, members can meet, converse with, and make long-lasting cohorts professionally, politically, and socially. In fact, the LDA’s Mentorship Program is a valuable means for students to get advice and assistance from established dentists; sign up now if you have not done so and want to take advantage of this opportunity!

### Other benefits available through the ADA

Further membership benefits with exclusive offers for you, include:

- ADA credentialing services
- Practice management and marketing information
- Dental benefit information and contract analysis services
- Member retirement and IRA programs
- ADA member advantage (endorsed companies)
- ADA travel benefits

## LDA Council on New Dentists

### New Dentists

Dentists who graduated from dental school less than 10 years ago are considered new dentists. The LDA has a Council on the New Dentist and they are dentists with the issues and concerns of new dentists in mind. The council consists of one member from each of the component societies, as well as a chairperson. This council will represent, promote, and support new dentists and dental students. It will also help as a peer and resource with the integration of new dentists into their community and into organized dentistry. Annually, this council works with the Council on Membership and Dental Practice to host functions with the LSU School of Dentistry (LSUSD) students, including Lunch and Learns.

### ADA Resources for New Dentists

The ADA also has new dentist resources available to members, including the New Dentist Blog that features personal stories and insight

on the dental profession for new dentists and dental students. For more new dentist resources, visit [ada.org/publications/new-dentist-news](http://ada.org/publications/new-dentist-news).

### LDA Council on the New Dentist Members

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## ADA to Award Scholarships for Teaching Institute

*by Kelly Ganski*




Support Signals Association’s Commitment to Dental Education, Academic Careers  
The ADA Council on Dental

Education and Licensure is granting three scholarships for a program geared toward supporting  
*Continued on Pg. 25*

# American Student Dental Association is Stronger than Ever

By Rivers R Singley and Alex F. Ha

Perks and benefits of membership, as derived from the ASDA website (www.asda.org):

<p>Tips on how to write your <b>curriculum vitae</b></p>	<p>Information and resources for obtaining <b>dental licensure</b></p>	<p><b>Ethics and professionalism</b> policy in dental education</p>
<p>ADA student membership: access to ADA <b>publications</b>, the ADA <b>library</b> and archives, the Center for Professional success, and more</p>		
<p>Plentiful dental student resources, including info on <b>scholarships</b> and <b>repayment</b> options, health and <b>wellness</b> resources, and many more</p>		
<p><b>Deals and offers</b> on brands such as certain scrubs and computer brands, DAT Bootcamp, and access to ADA insurance plans</p>		
<p>Information and insight into different <b>career paths</b> within the field of dentistry</p>		
<p>Information on ADA and ASDA national meetings, both of which allow for excellent opportunities in dental <b>political action</b>, networking, and developing <b>leadership</b> skills, such as shown in the following 2023 Year in Review</p>		



## Bulletin Board

### APPRAISALS, SALES, ASSOCIATESHIPS, PRE-RETIREMENT PLANNING

ADS South specializes in valuations and transitions for dentists. Learn how to protect your practice in case of death. Call Dr. Earl Douglas at 770/664-1982 or visit our website [www.adssouth.com](http://www.adssouth.com). Four Metairie practices and one North Shore practice sold. All sold for full price, cash at closing. If you're thinking about selling, this a good time to call Dr. Earl Douglas 770/664-1982 or [earl@adssouth.com](mailto:earl@adssouth.com).

### ENDO PRACTICE – NEW ORLEANS AREA (#9497)

Gross collections: \$1,266,252; 4 days a week, 3 operatories, 3,000 sq. ft. This exceptionally well-located and profitable jewel of a practice is now available for your purchase! The seller is willing to stay and assist with the practice transition if the buyer prefers. CBCT, X-NAV, Biolase Lasers, central Nitrous, and 3 treatment rooms fully equipped with Global Microscopes, intra-oral cameras, ultrasonics, and Endo handpieces provide unique

treatment possibilities. Over 3,000 square feet allows for future expansion of up to 5 additional treatment rooms. If your vision is to own a quality focused, service-oriented practice where you can grow and thrive, inquire with Dr. Earl Douglas at 770/664-1982 or [earl@adssouth.com](mailto:earl@adssouth.com).

### GENERAL DENTISTS NEEDED

Whether you are a recent dental school graduate or an established practitioner interested in pursuing new opportunities, Louisiana Dental Center offers dentists the ability to perform in an autonomous and collegial atmosphere without the burden of managing a practice. With numerous modern facilities scattered across South Louisiana, our practice is in a unique position to offer flexible and convenient scheduling options. If you're interested in joining our team of professionals, please contact Terry Ernst at 985/893-2240 or [ternst@LaDentalCenter.com](mailto:ternst@LaDentalCenter.com).

### SATURDAY GENERAL DENTISTS

Louisiana Dental Center is seeking General Dentists interested in

working Saturdays at its locations throughout South Louisiana. If you're interested in joining our team of professionals, please contact Terry Ernst at 985/893-2240 or [ternst@LaDentalCenter.com](mailto:ternst@LaDentalCenter.com).

### SPECIALISTS NEEDED

Louisiana Dental Center, a well-established and fast-growing group dental practice has great opportunities for specialists seeking flexible work options. Multiple locations and schedules ranging from 1 to 5 days a week. Orthodontists, Endodontists, Oral Surgeons, Periodontists and Pediatric Dentists are welcome. If you're interested in joining our team of professionals, please contact Terry Ernst at 985/893-2240 or [ternst@LaDentalCenter.com](mailto:ternst@LaDentalCenter.com).

### UPHOLSTERY

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## ADA to Award Scholarships for Teaching Institute...

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dental education and ADA general dentist members interested in dental academia. The Academy for Advancing Leadership's Institute for Teaching and Learning is a four-day on-site program with class discussions, small-group projects, problem-solving exercises, self-directed coursework, peer feedback

and presentations by institute scholars.

The 2024 program will take place August 26-29 at ADA Headquarters in Chicago. Although individuals may apply at any time during the year, the 2024 deadline is March 29. The full tuition scholarships will be granted by

May 16. Each scholarship totals \$3,500. For more information on the scholarships, including the complete list of criteria and eligibility requirements, visit [ADA.org](http://ADA.org). To learn more about the Institute for Teaching and Learning, go to [aalgroup.org/itl](http://aalgroup.org/itl).

