AAPD Resident Recognition Awards

The AAPD Pediatric Dental Resident Committee developed the Resident Recognition Award to recognize pediatric dental residents doing innovative and interesting activities in their training programs. Selected residents are awarded with a monetary prize, featured on the AAPD website, featured in *PDT* (Pediatric Dentistry Today), and recognized at the awards ceremony during the annual AAPD meeting.

Nominations are reviewed by a panel of at least three reviewers from the Pediatric Dental Resident Committee, New Pediatric Dentist Committee, and the Council on Membership and Membership Services.

Winners are chosen based on activities during residency that contribute to one or more of the following fields: patient care, education (i.e., teaching), research and community service. Innovation, time commitment and significance of service to others are the primary factors considered in the selection process.

Please join us in recognizing the two winners for the 2015 Fall/Winter cycle!

**JAMES LIPON**

*University of Minnesota*

*Expected graduation June 2016*

*Teaching*

James Lipon, D.D.S., a senior resident enrolled in the University of Minnesota Pediatric Dentistry Residency Program, brings significant expertise in sedation, general anesthesia and emergency rescue to the program with 13 years of experience as a general dentist as well as specialty training from a Commission on Dental Accreditation approved dental anesthesiology program. His experience prior to the pediatric dentistry residency program includes more than 5,000 office-based intravenous or oral sedation cases as the sedationist-dentist and more than 900 intubated or monitored anesthesia cases serving as the anesthesia provider. Lipon’s clinical expertise coupled with his focused, structured, mature approach to didactic courses and evidence-based practice enriches peer learning for his co-residents and expands the knowledge and capabilities of our faculty and staff.

Lipon has worked with residency program faculty to improve our clinic’s pre-, intra-, and postoperative moderate sedation workflows. He also took a resident leadership role to assist in improving our clinic’s emergency rescue training materials. Lipon has served on the planning committee and as workshop faculty for the annual Academic Health Center (AHC) Sedation Emergency Rescue Simulation Workshops. In this capacity, Lipon works with program faculty and the AHC simulation center team to host a full day schedule of lectures, hands-on immersive simulation cases, and group-based problem-solving sessions for his participating co-residents and the clinic staff using SimMan® patient simulators, advanced in-room monitoring equipment, and video streaming of the simulation cases to the residency program conference room for group discussion and participant debriefing sessions.

In our May 2015 workshop, Lipon provided a thorough yet concise, nicely formatted lecture on sedation rescue medications and led the conference room discussion and debriefing activities for the day. He played an integral part in improving this annual workshop and his work supported its relocation from the non-dental environment of the AHC simulation center to an in-situ activity in the residency program clinic, the University of Minnesota Pediatric Dental Clinic made possible by Delta Dental of Minnesota. In doing so, the residents and staff improved their patient assessment and rescue capabilities in the actual environment where they will rescue emergencies.

Over the past year, Lipon has worked closely with the course director for the School of Dentistry’s conscious sedation course to update course materials and ensure that they continue to meet the sedation teaching guidelines of the American Dental Association. He currently serves as course faculty and delivers two lectures on cardiac and respiratory physiology as part of this semester-long university course. Lipon, through this activity, supports quality training of dentists to deliver safe, office-based sedations across several disciplines in dentistry within Minnesota and elsewhere.

**NATALIE LAUCIUS**

*Yale New Haven Hospital*

*Expected graduation June 2016*

*Community and Public Service*

Dr. Natalie Laucius has been an exemplary resident since the day she began her two-year program in July 2014. Immediately, she requested to become involved with research and community service. Fortunately, she was provided both in the same package. Dr. Suher Baker wished to complete a study of the New Haven Board of Education Head Start program and the effects the residency was having by providing these students with a Dental Home. Laucius jumped at the chance to become involved.

Laucius graduated as Valedictorian from the University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine in 2014. While a student there, she was the community service chair of the Class of 2014 where she organized weekly oral health screenings and education for children at local homeless shelters, coordinated visits from the PennSmiles bus to homeless shelters, and started an oral health outreach program for refugees and was also the coordinator for Give Kids a Smile Day during her time at the University of Pennsylvania.

At her residency program, she has not only completed her data collection and evaluation as well as writing her research paper on the establishment of a Dental Home for the New Haven Board of Education Head Start children, but also donated multiple hours giving oral health education to Head Start parents, Head Start teachers and social workers. She has also volunteered to examine children at the local Head Start facilities and get them referred to the Yale-New Haven Hospital Residency Program. Laucius’ caring touch has helped provide a Dental Home to well over 100 Head Start children in Connecticut.