

5 October 2021

A new perspective on hindsight

The new President of BSPD is Professor Sondos Albadri, Professor and Honorary Consultant in Paediatric Dentistry in Liverpool and one of the most respected names in paediatric dentistry. In her inaugural speech to BSPD's annual general meeting she shared her extraordinary journey from a childhood in worn-torn Iraq to Professor at the age of 43.

Professor Albadri outlined the challenges that lie ahead, promising to make sure that BSPD's voice is heard. She said: "There is no doubt that we have a difficult time ahead of us. We face widening inequalities, growing waiting lists, difficulties in primary care and access and new working environments while, in the meantime, teams get used to the new normal. I promise to do my best to make these issues a priority during my term as President. "

It's tradition that the President tours all BSPD's branches during their year in office and delivers a lecture reflecting on their career and academic interests. Professor Albadri's topic is '*2021 vision: A new perspective on hindsight*' and she will reflect on her career, on the management of childhood trauma and on the lessons learned from the pandemic.

"We now live with the threat of a pandemic and prevention has never been so important. The hindsight we have acquired post pandemic should underpin our work going forward and as President I want to build on what that means for us and for our patients."

One of the impacts of the pandemic has been to highlight the degree to which children from deprived areas are disadvantaged by poor oral health. Another priority for Professor Albadri will be to support initiatives which help reduce growing inequalities in children's oral health.

Her inauguration took place on 5 October, at the annual general meeting, during BSPD's annual conference organised by the Merseyside branch. Professor Albadri paid tribute to her colleagues. "When I moved to Liverpool, I joined what was a very small paediatric dentistry team, but look at us now! We are thriving and growing, and I am so proud to be a member of such a wonderful team. She also paid tribute to her husband, Professor Fadi Jarad: "the perfect companion" on her journey.

Note to Editors

For more information or to interview Prof Albadri, contact Caroline Holland
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A fuller profile of Prof Albadri can be found here:

<https://www.liverpool.ac.uk/life-course-and-medical-sciences/staff/sondos-albadri/>

Her current research interests also include:

- Paediatric Dental attendances to Emergency Departments, collaboration to understand and reduce unnecessary dental attendances to ED departments, a collaboration between University of Liverpool, Alder Hey Children Hospital and Birmingham Children Hospital.
- Development of care pathways for the management of dental trauma in both children and adults, including the development of transitional care pathway.