

HOW-TO GUIDE

# PREDENTAL RECRUITMENT



## How-To Guide: Predental Recruitment

Predental students represent a unique sector of the dental community. Many of these students will matriculate into our dental schools in the near future, and those who do not will remain advocates of dentistry in their communities and lives. Therefore, educating predental students on the importance of organized dentistry and encouraging them to join ASDA as a predental member is a great way to introduce these students to their potential profession. It also presents an excellent opportunity to further expand ASDA as an organization. This guide includes a few examples of events and activities that ASDA chapters have created to educate predental students about dentistry and to recruit these students to join ASDA.

Whether you choose to model an activity after one of these schools or not, we hope that you will continue to reach out to predental students. We developed a short PowerPoint presentation that you can use at your chosen predental activity to encourage predental students to join ASDA (download the PowerPoint at [www.ASDAnet.org/presentations\\_chapters.aspx](http://www.ASDAnet.org/presentations_chapters.aspx)). It includes a short introduction to ASDA and the benefits of ASDA predental membership. We also encourage chapters to add a link to ASDA's predental page [www.ASDAnet.org/predental](http://www.ASDAnet.org/predental) on chapter websites and Facebook pages. This site includes a timeline for dental school preparation, tips for taking the DAT, interviewing and choosing a dental school, resources for predental clubs and non-traditional students, and much more.

### Benefits of ASDA Predental Membership

Predental membership in ASDA runs on a calendar year from January 1 to December 31, and is \$63/year. ASDA offers many benefits for predental members and below are some that you can use in your recruitment efforts. The full list of member benefits is available at [www.ASDAnet.org/benefits](http://www.ASDAnet.org/benefits).

### Why Join ASDA as a Predental Member?

- Involvement in ASDA makes you a more **competitive applicant for dental school** admissions. Joining ASDA can set you apart from the competition and show your commitment to organized dentistry early in your career.
- ASDA is the **number one resource** for predental students. Our website includes information catering exclusively to predental students' needs.
- Predental members receive the invaluable guide—**Getting Into Dental School: ASDA's Guide for Predental Students**. Save time researching schools with this guide that includes detailed information on all 65 schools.
- The ASDA website has **countless webinars and videos** just for predentals. Topics range from DAT preparation to tips on paying for dental school.
- Develop leadership skills through one of the **new national leadership positions** for predentals – predental consultant and predental advisory committee member.
- Members receive **10% off Crack the DAT and 25% off Coursesavers' study resources**. Using this member discount alone pays for the \$63 membership dues – and then some.
- Have a dental school interview? Make sure you know what is happening in dentistry by utilizing **ASDA's publications**—written for students by students to understand what is going on in today's fast moving dental climate.

- **Access to 22,000+ current dental students** through the membership directory—find students at your prospective dental schools.

### **ASDA Predental Week**

Each fall ASDA holds a national Predental Week to showcase resources and events for predental students. Predental clubs and chapters are encouraged to hold events for local predentals during this week and recruit them to ASDA. National activities include free webinars on preparing for dental school and resources for predental clubs. Predentals who join ASDA during that week are eligible for raffle prizes. Predental clubs that recruit the most members earn an incentive. This event is a wonderful opportunity for predentals to become acquainted with ASDA, the resources we offer and organized dentistry as a whole. More information is available at [www.ASDAnet.org/predentalweek](http://www.ASDAnet.org/predentalweek).

### **DAT Week**

During the summer while many predental students are preparing for the DAT, ASDA dedicates a week to the DAT. This is a great opportunity for predentals to complement their studying with advice and tips from current dental students. Members have access to exclusive webinars, daily blog posts and social media contests all targeted at helping students succeed on the DAT. More information is available at <http://asdanet.org/datweek>.

### **Organizing a Predental Day**

Creating a predental day is one of the most rewarding yet challenging events an ASDA chapter can put on. There are many directions a chapter can go with this event; however, remember predentals are excited to get face time with current students and faculty. Try to recall how badly you wanted to get into dental school. With that in mind, aim high. This is your chapter's opportunity to showcase your dental school while raising money for your chapter and communicating the many benefits of being involved with ASDA. Following is a look at some of the challenges and solutions your chapter may face in putting on your first predental day.

#### **Challenge #1: Administration difficulty or lack of support**

Overcome this challenge by working with your dean or admissions office from day one. Having their input on picking a name goes a long way in gaining good will. While this is an ASDA event, it is important to remember that your chapter is representing the entire school to the outside world. By asking for input from the top, you're creating a connection for administration to the event, as well as establishing transparency between both organizations. If your administration is resisting the idea of a predental day, remind them that this is an opportunity to attract highly qualified potential applicants.

#### **Challenge #2: Picking a name**

Don't be generic. Anyone can call the event *X School ASDA Predental Day*, but why should you? Your event should offer an EXPERIENCE that will blow the predentals away, and the name should support that. For example, we decided on "Explore UTSD" for our event name, which allowed us to brand the event. Choosing this name with the dean and associate dean of admissions helped us build rapport and trust that had an impact on how much planning autonomy the administration gave to ASDA. It was made clear that this was an ASDA event many times over, but at the same time the name suggested something bigger than our chapter.

**Challenge #3: How many prospects can we accommodate?**

Be realistic about what your chapter and school are prepared to handle. At Houston, we have 100 students in each class so we decided to offer 100 spots. However, we have a pre dental team consisting of eight people and used roughly 25 volunteers, not counting speakers, at Explore UTSD. If your manpower is lower, adjust accordingly. One volunteer per four to six pre dentals is a safe bet for making a great event.

**Challenge #4: When is the best time to host this event?**

Give yourself four to six months to plan the event once you have chosen a date. You'll want a minimum of two months to promote the event (more on that later) and should have most of the major planning ideas completed by that point. Double check availability for the rooms you need ASAP, as other organizations may compete for space. If you can get the entire school for the event, grab it.

When picking a date, remember that you're balancing three things: 1) availability at the school; 2) student volunteer schedules; and 3) pre dental schedules. With that in mind, go with a Friday or Saturday as early in the semester as you can. Later in the year, Thanksgiving and spring break get in the way. Also, remember that if your school is affiliated with a large university that has major sporting events on those dates, you don't want overlap, as this can cause logistical or attendance problems.

**Challenge #5: How do we sign people up and how much should they pay?**

There are several options for handling sign-ups. At Houston we have been successful using our ASDA webpage for registration. You can also use a free site such as SurveyMonkey to create a registration form. We also offer a few reserved spots to schools with pre dental societies to get the widest representation possible. Having one or two large schools monopolize attendance goes against the greater goals of a pre dental day.

In terms of cost, take a look at how much you'll need to run the event and then decide if it will be an ASDA fundraiser or if you want to (or are forced to) break even. Numbers range from \$15-\$100+ for students depending on the school and duration of the event. We charged a full day at \$50 or \$35 for ASDA pre dental members, but, in truth, we could double this price and still fill up the event. Pre dentals have a lot to gain from a well-planned, informative event, so keep that in mind when pricing the event.

**Challenge #6: How do we get the word out?**

First and foremost, word of mouth is the best way to go. As soon as a date is set, create a Facebook event and start inviting classmates whom you're confident will volunteer. Many current dental students have friends and siblings who will be applying in the future. Make sure to post the event information in your class Facebook groups and ask them to spread the word.

Reach out to the pre dental societies in your state or nearby states if your school matriculates from a wide field. Some pre dentals will travel for these kinds of events, so don't limit your outreach to just locals.

Remember that relationship you built with admissions during the event planning period? They have access to state pre-health advisors and schools from which they recruit. Ask them to send an email two months before the event. (Side note: make sure this is possible early on. If not you'll want to start composing your own list of pre-health advisors to send the email to).

At Houston we filled approximately 30 spots over the course of roughly two weeks. During this time, we had a professional flyer created to post on our webpage and Facebook, and distributed via email blast. Once we sent to the listserv, the remaining 70 spots filled up in three days, with a long waiting list.

### **Challenge #7: How do we handle cancellations?**

In order to reserve spots and create dependability with the predentals, you must collect money when they sign up. There will be people who try to get a refund the day before or even after the event, but this isn't acceptable. They are reserving a spot that someone else REALLY wants. To help overcome this, create a refund policy and promote it with registration. We chose to honor any requests up to two weeks before Explore UTSD, which gave us enough time to refill those spots with people from our waiting list.

### **Getting Down to the Nitty Gritty**

Depending on the scope of your event, it can be a very time consuming and stressful task to oversee. To help minimize these issues, here are a few ideas that worked well for our chapter.

1. **Build a team.** There will be many people at your school and within your chapter who want to help. If you don't have a preidental committee, create one specifically for this event. You have to spread the workload in order to create the best possible experience.
2. **Have a clear vision** for the event before you ever approach administration. Putting together a tentative itinerary is doable at the very beginning of the planning process. Do you want this to be an all-day or half-day event? How about over the course of a weekend? How many and what type of speakers do you want? How will you fund it? Will there be sponsors? Brainstorm extensively with your team and reach out to other chapters who are putting on preidental days to share ideas and advice.
3. **Make a list of everything you need.** Don't forget name tags, meals, goodie bags, printed copies, sign in/up sheets and anything you might need for lab work (glasses, burners, hand pieces etc.)
4. **Create a timeline** and then delegate tasks. Set solid deadlines for tasks and hold your team accountable to those dates. You do not want to be rushing to finish goodie bags the night before because it wasn't delegated to someone.

### **Interesting People Give Interesting Presentations**

Choosing the presentations and activities is one of the most important planning aspects of this whole process. Do you want it to be ASDA centric? Do you want lots of hands-on activities? Do you give tours or assume they can do it on their own? Get the most out of the finite time your event has, but also be aware this is a long day. Can you remember sitting in lecture for eight hours early on in dental school? Don't let that be the experience for your predentals. Work in activities that involve moving around, and break up the presentations.

The best advice is to pick interesting speakers. Through dental school and ASDA, you have met plenty of great people with a passion for dentistry. Give them a forum to spread that energy to a captive audience hungry for information.

Here are some highly recommended activities and presentations for an event like this.

1. **The dean or head admissions** should present to the group. This puts a face on your school and the admissions committee. When predentals send in that application, let them do so with advice given by the folks up top. If you can get both to speak, by all means do it but be conscious of time. Ten to 15 minutes each is plenty.
2. **Tours.** Most event organizers would agree that attendees appreciate seeing the building(s). We do tour groups of approximately eight predentals with two to three tour guides.
3. **Hands on activities.** Last year, we opted for a class 1 on a plastic tooth then waxing. This year we're adding classes on sealants and impressions on a typodont, along with the class 1. (The tooth makes a great souvenir.)
4. **Q&A with a panel** of current dental students from varied backgrounds. Select a good mix of the four dental classes that represent the demographic make-up as much as possible. You want to create an environment where the predentals feel comfortable asking questions in front of a large group, so keep that in mind when selecting panelists.
5. **Mock Interviews.** If you have a large enough volunteer base, older pre dental students might be interested in a mock interview. Depending on the format of your dental school's interview process, you may want to do mock 1-on-1 interviews or a mock group interview. It is a good idea to give dental student interviewers a paper rubric that they can fill out and give written feedback to pre dental students.

You can choose additional activities tailored to your school or chapter. In addition to must-haves from above, we had a student life presentation, Kaplan (during lunch), intro to organized dentistry taught by a local dentist, a short class on waxing/drilling/anatomy and, of course, admission info and advice.

### **Breakout Sessions**

If you have you been to NLC, you probably are familiar with breakout sessions. (If you haven't, then ask a classmate who has attended NLC about them.) Often when you are considering which speakers and topics to include, it becomes difficult to fit everything in. Breakout sessions allow you to schedule multiple presentations running at concurrent times. For example, our event included eight thirty-minute breakout sessions with four running concurrently in each time slot.

Keep in mind that your pre dental attendees come from a wide variety of backgrounds. There will be the sophomores looking for direction (time management and study tips). There will be all-star researchers. There will be people who are re-applying. There will be people who are currently parents, and people who are planning to become parents while in dental school. There will also be non-traditional students looking for advice on standing out among the younger applicants.

Breakout sessions allow you to address these different groups and avoid being generic with your predental day. If you choose to incorporate them, vary the topics and pull together as many speakers as you can. Don't give them Yahoo Answers; give them TedTalks. Tailor your topics to resonate with as many attendees as possible, and you will blow them away.

For more specifics, see the sample agenda with breakout session topics, welcome letter and tour schedule starting on page 9.

### **Predental Leadership Award**

If you are able to raise enough funds from your Predental Day, consider investing these funds back into predental growth and development. We were able to raise enough funds from our Predental Day to create a leadership award that fully funded one predental member to ASDA's National Leadership Conference. This award was announced at our summer Applicant/Mock Interview Day. We set a three-month submission period with a deadline of August. See our application on page 13 for an example.

We created an award committee consisting of our director of student affairs (head of admissions committee), the current ASDA president and the predental committee (the current chair and associate). Four people reviewed and ranked each applicant to determine the three finalists.

The finalists had 20-minute phone interviews with the committee. The actual voting committee did not include our head of admissions in order to keep the voting to an odd number. Each applicant was asked the following:

- What does it mean to be a good leader?
- Give an example of difficulty you experienced as a leader and how you overcame it.
- What do you hope to bring back from NLC?

We voted immediately following the phone calls and selected a winner. This award allowed our chapter to give back to the predental community.

### **Sample Materials and Predental Projects**

Starting on page 9, we have included sample documents we used for Explore UTSD and the Predental Leadership Award. A list of projects that other chapters have organized for predentals begins on page 14.

## **Predental Day Alternatives**

If your chapter is unable to organize a predental day due to challenges with logistics, budget, or fundraising, consider these alternatives. Each opportunity still provides your chapter the ability to spread ASDA fever and talk with predental students about your school!

### **Alternative 1: Local Predental Club Visits**

Instead of bringing the predentals to your school, bring your school to the predentals. This alternative is especially useful when administrators will not allow your chapter to use the school's space to host predentals.

Begin by contacting the predental club at a nearby university. Many clubs have websites or Facebook pages with the president's contact information listed. If their contact information is not available, try contacting the university's health professions office. Organize a time when students from your dental school could go visit predental students at their university, preferably during the predental club's normal meeting time. Suggested activities during the visit include a presentation introducing ASDA, a presentation about your school and a Q & A panel with current dental students. Your chapter could also bring materials for a hands-on activity such as wax carving or taking alginate impressions.

### **Alternative 2: Predental Club Virtual Visit**

When traveling to a university becomes logistically difficult, organize a virtual visit with a predental club. This opportunity still allows you to connect with predentals while avoiding traveling or planning a larger scale event. In a similar manner to alternative 1, your chapter should contact the president of the predental club to set up a time during a regular meeting. Interested dental students can then jointly Skype into a predental meeting to talk about ASDA and your dental school. After any presentations can then be followed up with a Q & A session.

### **Alternative 3: Predental Dinner**

If finding a space to host a predental day at your dental school is an issue, consider hosting a predental social at a local restaurant. Reserve space at a restaurant large enough to give a presentation and allow dental and predental students to mingle. Begin this dinner with a presentation on the benefits of an ASDA predental membership and information about your school. Following the presentation with a reception will facilitate informal socializing between dental and predental students. Be sure to heavily advertise this event like you would a predental day. Also be sure to check schedules of dental and predental students to avoid scheduling conflicts with major university events, holidays, etc.

## Explore UTSD Schedule

Time	Location	Event	Add'l info
8:00-8:30am	4310	Registration/Breakfast	<i>Kolaches and/or donuts provided by ASDA or Sponsor</i>
8:30am-8:50am	4330	Welcome & Dean's Address	<i>Dr. Valenza: Dentistry, vision of school</i>
8:50am-9:15am	4330	Admissions Overview	<i>Dr. Pierpont: Admissions process</i>
9:15am-9:45am	4330	Student Life	<i>Laura Nelson, Andrew Naeger, Paola Salazaar</i>
9:45am - 10:30am		Guided Tours	<i>Tour guides will be ASDA officers and other student volunteers</i>
10:30am - 11:00am	4330	Intro to dental anatomy & Operative	<i>Chris Thorburn &amp; Alex Edgerly</i>
11:00am-12:00pm	Group A: Preclinical lab Group B: Sim lab	Hands-on waxing  Class 1 prep on typodont	<i>Pre-prepped horse teeth &amp; #30 O</i>
12:00-1:00pm	4310	Lunch and DAT prep advice	<i>Sponsored by Kaplan</i>
1:00pm-2:00pm	Group B: Preclinical lab Group A: Sim lab	Hands-on waxing  Class 1 prep on typodont	<i>Pre-prepped horse teeth &amp; #30 O</i>
2:00pm-2:45pm	4330	Intro to Organized Dentistry & ASDA	<i>Organized dentistry overview, how ASDA fits in. Katie Sowa, Graham Reed, Adrien Lewis</i>
2:45pm – 2:55pm	4330	Explanation of breakout sessions and introduction to topics.	<i>Chris Thorburn</i>
3:00pm-3:25pm	Multiple Rooms	Break out: 4310, 4320, 4330, 4340	<i>See below for details</i>
3:30pm-3:55pm	Multiple Rooms	Break out: 4310, 4320, 4330, 4340	<i>See below for details</i>
4:00pm-5:00pm	4330, 4340	Q/A panel dental students	<i>Various dental students</i>
5:00pm-5:15pm	4330	Closing remarks	<i>Chris Thorburn</i>

## Breakout Sessions

Time	Room	Topic	Speakers
3:00pm – 3:25pm	4310	Study Tips: The things we wish we had known in undergrad.	<i>Brady Atkins, Haley Bennett, Sarah Arafat</i>
3:00pm – 3:25pm	4320	Living outside the box: creating your own research and activity opportunities in dental school.	<i>Mary Hess &amp; Francisco Nieves</i>
3:00pm – 3:25pm	4330	Reapplying to dental school: improving your matriculation chances after the first try.	<i>Katie Sowa &amp; Graham Reed</i>
3:00pm – 3:25pm	4340	Finding a mentor and getting the most out of volunteer opportunities.	<i>Chris Thorburn</i>
3:30pm – 3:55pm	4310	Time Management: Get ready to see some calendars and schedules, dental school can get really busy. Learn how to handle it.	<i>Adrien Lewis &amp; Paola Salazaar</i>
3:30pm – 3:55pm	4320	Having a family in dental school: students with spouses and children offer their insight into what it's like to balance family life and being a student.	<i>Tim Woernly &amp; Theresa Lasseter</i>
3:30pm – 3:55pm	4330	Student Finances: A candid look at what it really costs to go to dental school and how to manage your finances.	<i>Dr. Pierpont</i>
3:30pm – 3:55pm	4340	Non-traditional student application: getting into dental school as a second career or later in life.	<i>Greg Luk &amp; Chris Thorburn</i>



On behalf of the American Student Dental Association and The University of Texas School of Dentistry I would like to personally thank everyone for coming to Explore UTSD Pre dental Day! We're very excited to welcome everyone to our school and offer you a glimpse into what life is like as a dental student.

Today you will be hearing from both Dean Valenza and Dr. Pierpont who is the head of the admissions committee. Current students will give presentations on student life, organized dentistry and offer a Q&A session at the end of the day. This is a great opportunity to really pick our brains and get some insider information about how we handled undergrad, applying and attending dental school.

Included in the agenda are eight breakout sessions of which you can pick two to attend. Please make sure to sign up for the sessions that are most interesting to you as we are limiting the max number of people to 30 for each session. You can find signup for this in the lobby area near the elevators on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor.

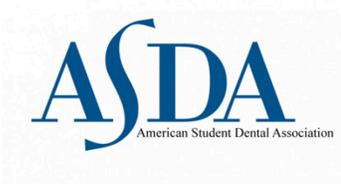
We hope that at the end of today you come away with a greater appreciation for life at UTSD, as well as the important role that organized dentistry, ASDA and the ADA play in helping make dentistry one of the top professions in America.

In closing, I want to congratulate you all for choosing dentistry as your future profession. It is truly an amazing industry!

Hook Em,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chris Thorburn', written in a cursive style.

Chris Thorburn  
DDS Class of 2016  
ASDA District 9 Trustee



## UTSD Tours

Start time 9:45

Total Time – 45 minutes (5 minutes per station)

The location listed is your start location. You will rotate with your groups, just like orientation, to the next location based upon the number. If you reach 9 and it isn't your last station, take the main elevators up to 4 and proceed to the library. The order is designed to flow in a direction to make each station the next in line or closest to your previous station.

**1. Library - Paola, Rebecka, Eric**

- Just walk them around, talk about its use.

**2. Lecture hall 4<sup>th</sup> floor – Andrew, Franzen, Yarima**

- Use 4330

**3. Sim Lab – Mary, Patty, Graves**

- Show them a dummy

**4. Table top lab – Graham, Sendelbach**

- Waxing

**5. Student Lounge – Laura, Max**

**6. Book store/patient waiting area –Adrien, Terrall**

- Not a lot here, good time to let them ask questions.

**7. Second floor ( dispensary and Orange bay) – Glennis, Krystle**

- Just show them the size of our clinics. Dispensary will be closed but explain that's where you get supplies.

**8. 1<sup>st</sup> floor clinic – Marissa, Alden**

- Show them endoscopes, walk past the specialty clinics (OS, Pedo, UC)

**9. 1<sup>st</sup> floor waiting area/lobby area – Nicole, Hillary**

- Show them the two historical/information areas to the left of the front door and back towards Cooley.

## ***Houston ASDA Predental Leadership Award***

### ***Closing Date: August 20, 2014***

The Predental Leadership Award was created to help target future ASDA leaders beginning at the predental level. Candidates should be predental students who have shown excellence in community service, academics and leadership.

Applicants must:

- Provide an up-to-date CV
- Responses to the questions on the next page
- Be available for an interview in person or via video conferencing between August 21 and Sept. 20
- Must be available for travel to Chicago, October 30 – November 2
- If selected as finalist, must provide up-to-date transcript

Award is open to the following:

- Texas resident
- **MUST** be ASDA predental member
- 24 hours undergraduate science credit
- Must be applying to dental school in 2014 or 2015

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**Please ensure all information is correct and up to date**

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Name:

Address:

Email:

Phone:

DOB:

University Attending:

Degree and Date:

ASDA #:

Please make sure you have reviewed the rules and expectations for accepting the award along with visiting the NLC webpage to learn about the opportunities available:

[www.ASDAnet.org/nlc](http://www.ASDAnet.org/nlc)

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#### **APPLICANT DECLARATION**

I wish to apply for the Houston ASDA Predental Leadership Award and agree to the terms and conditions. I declare to the best of my knowledge that the information supplied herein is correct and complete. I acknowledge that the submission of incorrect or incomplete information may result in non-award or a cancellation of the award at any stage.

Signature:		Date:	
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**Houston ASDA Predental Leadership Award  
Interview Questions/Topics**

1. In your words what makes a great leader?
2. What does it mean to be a leader in dentistry?
3. Please explain the importance of organized dentistry and the role ASDA plays in it.
4. Anything else you would like to add about yourself.

## Chapter Projects

**Name of project:** VCU Predental Day

**ASDA chapter:** Virginia

**Description (where, when and details of project):**

VCU has an annual Predental Day in which all of the predental clubs at Virginia's large universities are invited to participate. (Eighty to 90 students from seven different universities participated last year.) The event takes place during the spring semester and is free to the predental students. Lunch is sponsored by Proctor & Gamble (\$200) and the VCU predental club (\$100). Proctor & Gamble also donate toothbrush goodie bags for all of the participants.

**VCU Predental Day Itinerary:**

**12pm- Check in** (Once the students check in they are organized into three different groups- Groups A, B, and C.)

**12:30pm-**

**Group A-** Dental Simulation Lab (predental students do Class I preps on tooth #19 on the Dent-Sim mannequins. Simulation teeth are donated by the VCU admissions department.)

**Group B-** Tour of the dental school facilities with current dental students

**Group C-** Pizza lunch with D2s and D3s

**1pm-**

**Group A-** Tour of the dental school

**Group B-** Lunch

**Group C-** Simulation Lab

**1:30pm-**

**Group A-** Lunch

**Group B-** Tour of the dental school

**Group C-** Simulation Lab

**2pm- All groups meet in Lecture Hall**

**2:15- Address from Student Government/ASDA President** – Welcome and introduction to ASDA and VCU

**2:45- Dean of VCU Dental School** – Welcome/Curriculum at VCU

**3:15- Dean of Admissions** – Requirements for VCU admission and the admission process

**3:45- Question and Answer Session** with Deans and current dental students

**Contact person and email:**

Brittany Field - [fieldbl@vcu.edu](mailto:fieldbl@vcu.edu)

Madison Wallace - [wallacema3@vcu.edu](mailto:wallacema3@vcu.edu)

**Name of project:** [UCLA Basic Dental Principles Course](#)

**ASDA chapter:** Los Angeles

**Description (where, when and details of project):**

Basic Dental Principles is a for-credit course offered to UCLA undergraduate students. The course is comprised of two different components: a lecture series and a laboratory series. The lectures are given by third-year dental students, after extensive development of the material with dental school faculty. The course is unique in offering dental students the opportunity to explore the rewards of teaching and preparing for career in education while simultaneously providing pre-dental students with a unique view into dentistry.

This course is not organized by the UCLA ASDA chapter, but is something that an ASDA chapter could potentially coordinate with an undergraduate campus in their area as a fundraiser for their ASDA chapter. Though the program is run completely by a separate leadership structure and funding (covered by the undergraduate's tuition), it could be a great avenue to educate pre-dental students about ASDA and organized dentistry.

**Contact person and email:**

Timothy Yu - [tyu72@ucla.edu](mailto:tyu72@ucla.edu)

Sharlene Cam - [sharlenecam@ucla.edu](mailto:sharlenecam@ucla.edu)

**Name of project:** Illinois Predental Consortium

**ASDA chapter:** Illinois

**Description (where, when and details of project):**

The Illinois Predental Consortium is an effort that the University of Illinois at Chicago College of Dentistry (UIC COD) started in the fall of 2007. The Consortium consists of predental club members from seven universities in Illinois as well as members from ASDA, the ADA, the Chicago Dental Society, the Illinois Children’s Healthcare Foundation, the Illinois State Dental Society and the UIC COD.

The purpose of the Consortium is to connect Illinois predental students on a state-wide level with the goal of sharing resources and interests, collaborating to increase predental mentoring, educating predental students on oral health disparities in the state and increasing access to care for children in Illinois.

The Consortium was funded through a grant from the Illinois Children’s Healthcare Foundation. The initiative is now funded by the UIC COD.

**Consortium Activities:**

- **Annual Consortium Meeting** – August at the UIC COD
- **Predental Conference** – February at Chicago Dental Society’s Mid-Winter Meeting
- **Outreach** –Give Kids a Smile Day (2<sup>nd</sup> Friday in February)
- **Mentoring** – Mentoring Dinner Meeting (November)
- **Club Meetings**
- **Dental School Visits**

**Contact person and email:**

Carolyn Feller - [cfeller@uic.edu](mailto:cfeller@uic.edu)

Braulia Espinosa - [bespin1@uic.edu](mailto:bespin1@uic.edu)

**Name of project:** Annual Predental Day

**ASDA chapter:** Nova Southeastern

**Description (where, when and details of project):**

Nova Southeastern Dental School hosts an annual Predental Day at their school, sponsored by Nova's ASDA chapter. There is no charge to predental students to attend the event. Students from across the nation are invited to attend.

**Itinerary:**

8:30am	<b>Check-in and Breakfast</b>
9:00am	<b>Welcome Address</b> (by the Predental Chair at Nova)
9:05am	<b>Our Chapter, What We Are and What We Do.</b> (Nova ASDA Chapter President gives description of ASDA at Nova)
9:30am	<b>NSU Dental Curriculum</b> (discussion of curriculum by the Assistant Dean for Curriculum and Educational Affairs)
10:00am	<b>Kaplan Testing Center</b> (overview of the DAT and requirements)
10:30am	<b>National ASDA</b> (description of ASDA on a national level)
11:00am	<b>How to Be A Better Applicant</b> (discussion given by the Assistant Dean of Admissions)
11:30am	<b>Mock Interview</b> (with a professor from Nova)
12:00pm	<b>Tour of the facilities</b> (with current dental students)
12:30pm	<b>Lunch and Networking</b> (sponsored by Kaplan)

**Contact person and email:**

Kalynn Foster - [Kf683@nova.edu](mailto:Kf683@nova.edu)

**Name of project:** Application Core Build-up Day

**ASDA chapter:** Los Angeles

**Description (where, when and details of project):**



The UCLA ASDA chapter created a Pre dental Day that focuses on the application process and targets students preparing to apply to any dental school in the upcoming cycle. Application Core Build-up Day allows our chapter to have a greater impact on future dentists than an event focused primarily on showcasing our dental school.

We work closely with the school administration to develop the schedule for the event and use feedback from a post-event questionnaire distributed to attendees. This has helped us expand our program and better serve our participants.

See sample promotional letter and agenda of event on the following pages.

**Contact person and email:**

Timothy Yu - [tyu72@ucla.edu](mailto:tyu72@ucla.edu)

Sharlene Cam - [sharlenecam@ucla.edu](mailto:sharlenecam@ucla.edu)

Dear Predental Students,

UCLA ASDA is excited to announce the first ever Application Core Build-Up Day on **Saturday, May 4, from 8:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.**, at UCLA School of Dentistry! This event is geared to help predental students that will be applying in the upcoming 2013-2104 AADSAS cycle that opens June 3. We will be joined by Dr. Mito, Associate Dean for Academic Programs and Personnel, and Dr. Bibb, Associate Dean of Student Affairs, as well as plenty of current UCLA Dental Students that will offer words of advice for the arduous process of applying to dental school.

The main focus of Core Build-Up Day will be components shared by all dental schools: personal statements, interviews and understanding the current state of dentistry. Unfortunately, we are only able to offer attendance to a **maximum of 40** predental students who are getting ready to apply this cycle, with priority given to current predental ASDA members.

Please note the following:

1. Attendance to Core Build-Up Day does not guarantee admissions into UCLA or any other dental school. (We were told by administration and the legal adviser for the school that we have to mention this.)
2. You must bring a complete draft of your personal statement and bring a copy with you. We will be having a personal statement workshop with the opportunity to have your personal statement reviewed.
3. Please dress as if you are attending an actual dental school interview (business attire). We are trying to best simulate the experience for the mock interviews. Dressing the part will be great practice!
4. Please arrive promptly (ideally 15-30 minutes before our scheduled 8:30 a.m. start time). We have a full morning of events planned for you and want to stay on schedule.
5. You are responsible for parking. Unfortunately parking is still enforced on Saturdays. You can park in the pay-by-space spots in the CHS parking structure, which cost \$11 for the full day.
6. Please bring a notepad and pen/pencil.
7. Besides parking, participation in Core Build-Up Day is free!
8. **Sign up here:** [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1i8FjR7lZJ\\_tgxbIU\\_rKdZm7s-iii6K5wjXiNKqRjkEE/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1i8FjR7lZJ_tgxbIU_rKdZm7s-iii6K5wjXiNKqRjkEE/viewform)

Although this is short notice, we hope many of you can attend, and we look forward to working with you to help make the application process less stressful!

Attached is a copy of the schedule. Please feel free to email me or Alex ([ajmcmahon@ucla.edu](mailto:ajmcmahon@ucla.edu)) if you have any questions.

Best,

David Lindsey and Alex McMahon  
UCLA ASDA Pre-Dental Committee Chairs

**Core Build-Up Day Schedule  
May 4, 2013**

<b>8:30 – 9:00am</b>	<b>Introduction</b>
<b>9:00-10:00am</b>	<b>Personal Statements &amp; Review</b> On-the-Spot Essay: What can you provide to the class of 2018? Personal Statements: Examples from the class of 2014/15/16. Small group workshop.
<b>10:00 – 10:30am</b>	<b>Choosing the Right School for you</b> PowerPoint presentation after doing research on popular schools that CA residents attend (California schools, UNLV, ASDO, NYU, BU, Columbia, UPenn). Additional information will include other factors that play a significant role in determining which schools to apply.
<b>10:30 – 11:00am</b>	<b>Hot Topics</b> CDA Class Representative will present a condensed overview of major current topics that CDA, ADA, and ASDA view to be important for future and current dentists to be aware of.
<b>11:00-12:00pm</b>	<b>Interviews / Interview Strategy</b> Attendees need to dress as if it were a dental school interview. Will simulate two interview styles used by dental schools: a student one-on-one interview with a brief feedback session at the conclusion of the interview and a small group interview.
<b>12:00-1:00pm</b>	<b>Networking Lunch</b> Informal networking lunch with current dental students.