



ASDA's Council and Committee Structure

National leaders further ASDA's mission by completing projects and tasks assigned by the house of delegates and Board of Trustees. ASDA's councils and committees are vital to the advancement of ASDA's Strategic Plan.

The objectives, appointment process and missions of ASDA's councils and committees are explained below. Leaders should have an understanding of the council or committee on which they serve.

Standing committees:

- Objective: make policy recommendations to the board, undertake long-term assignments and carry out directives of the house of delegates and board.
- Appointment process: appointed by the board. The Executive Committee assigns board liaisons to all standing committees.
- ASDA's standing committees are:
 - *Council on Advocacy* represents the interests of dental students on legislative and regulatory issues that impact the dental profession. The council launches grassroots initiatives to promote action-oriented advocacy in support of dental students and the patients they serve.
 - *Council on Communications* is responsible for creating and disseminating information via various media channels. The council reviews content on the ASDA website and guides digital initiatives. The council acts as a resource for and promotes chapter communication efforts.
 - *Council on Membership* assesses and develops resources that meet the needs of ASDA's members and chapters. The council assists chapters and trustees with membership initiatives. The council oversees the Predental Advisory Committee and the Advanced Standing/International Dental Student Advisory Committee.
 - *Council on Professional Issues* serves the association as a resource on matters that affect the dental student experience, including but not limited to: community engagement, public health initiatives, interprofessional education, diversity and inclusion, ethics, transition into practice and facilitating collaboration with other professional organizations.
 - *Editorial Board* works closely with staff to determine the strategy and themes for ASDA's print publication, Contour. Editorial Board members develop the content for ASDA's print publication and blog.

Advisory committees

- Objective: provide knowledge or advice to help standing committees achieve their mission.
- Appointment Process: members have expertise in a specific area may be proposed by standing committees and approved by a board.

- ASDA’s advisory committees are:
 - *Predental Advisory Committee* develops and provides feedback on predental student focused initiatives. They work closely with the predental consultant, and provide insight into ASDA’s predental members.
 - *Advanced Standing/International Dental Student (AS/IDP) Advisory Committee* works closely with the Council on Membership to develop resources and benefits for AS/IDP members. They provide feedback on initiatives for students enrolled in an advanced standing or international dental program at a CODA-accredited dental school.

Management committees

- Objective: address initiatives that fall outside the duties of the Board but require board knowledge or expertise.
- Appointment process: board members are appointed to these committees by the Executive Committee.
- ASDA’s management committees are:
 - *Committee on Sessions* is responsible for the planning of the upcoming Annual Session. The committee maintains the importance of governance and policy associated with the Annual Session.
 - *Governance Committee* reviews the ASDA governance documents and proposes changes as to keep documents current. The committee ensures that all ASDA documents are consistent with the governing documents.

Task forces

- Objective: perform specific tasks not assigned to the board, standing committees, management committees or advisory committees. The task force ceases to exist after the final report is submitted or until otherwise specified.
- Appointment process: can be established by the house of delegates, the Board of Trustees and standing committees. A task force comprises appointed members that The Board or standing committees may appoint. Task forces appointed by standing committees are subject to approval by the board.