

## **Governance Work Group**

### **Members:**

Sohaib Soliman, Washington '17, chair; Matt Bridges, Oklahoma '17, speaker of the house; Kathryn Dickmann, Detroit Mercy '17, District 6 trustee; Alex Mitchell, Temple '18, District 3 trustee; Stephanie Follett, senior manager, advocacy and policy and Keely O'Sullivan, governance coordinator, staff liaisons

### **Mission and Purpose:**

The Governance Work Group reviews ASDA's governance documents to keep them current. The work group also ensures that all ASDA documents are consistent with the governing documents.

### **New Initiatives:**

- The Governance Work Group (GWG) reviewed ASDA's Memorial Award and recommended new criteria that focuses on chapter-level leadership contributions rather than district-level leadership. The Board adopted the amendments and changed the award's name to Distinguished Leader Award.
- The GWG evaluated the Executive Committee Citation and recommended nominee criteria and eligibility requirements for the Executive Committee to consider.
- The GWG was tasked by the Board of Trustees to review and clarify the Paragon Award. The GWG proposed an amendment to modify the award's nomination process by requiring three letters of recommendation, two from Board members and one from a dental colleague. The GWG further clarified the magnitude of the award by revising the application's language to focus on the nominee's significant contributions to organized dentistry on a national level.
- The GWG was tasked with reviewing the process for candidate questioning in joint district caucuses. After reviewing the process and rules for each joint caucus, the GWG developed guidelines that could be used by trustees in addition to the joint caucus rules. The guidelines would help attendees evaluate candidates' leadership skills while promoting professional conduct during candidate questioning. The Board of Trustees adopted the recommended guidelines.
- The GWG determined that ASDA's leadership structure needed to be updated to define each leadership category and to clarify how leaders within each category further ASDA's mission. To clarify the association's leadership structure, the GWG recommended amendments to the governance documents (see Council Business).

### **Council Business:**

#### **Governing Documents:**

The GWG reviewed ASDA's governing documents and submitted resolutions to the 2017 House of Delegates. The GWG proposed the following amendments.

#### **Bylaws**

- Article IV. Leadership, Section 3. 'National Leader': clarifies the definition of ASDA national leaders.

- Article VII. Elections, Section 1. Candidacy 'A. Official Candidate': reflects updated processes. In 2017, ASDA published a new magazine, Contour, in place of ASDA News and Mouth. Due to Contour's publishing schedule and the national leadership application timeline, it is not feasible to publish candidate information in Contour. This amendment ensures that candidate platforms are effectively disseminated on the website.
- Article VIII. Standing Committees: clarifies the definition of the standing committees of the association.

The Governance Work Group determined that the following articles should be rescinded and submitted the following to the 2017 House of Delegates:

- Article VII. Election, Section 2. 'Nomination': rescinds House of Delegates procedures that should be placed into the Standing Rules of the House of Delegates.
- Article IX. Special Committees: rescinds processes that are overseen by the Board and belong in the Standing Rules of the Board of Trustees.

#### Standing Rules of House of Delegates

- Section 2. Organization of the House of Delegates, B. 'Seating': clarifies the intent of delegate seating on the House of Delegates floor.
- Section 7. Elections, A. 'Candidate Information': reflects updated processes. In 2017, ASDA published a new magazine, Contour, in place of ASDA News and Mouth. Due to Contour's publishing schedule and the national leadership application timeline, it is not feasible to publish candidate information in Contour. This amendment ensures that candidate platforms are effectively disseminated on the website, email and social media.
- Section 7. Elections, B. 'Election Code of Conduct': clarifies that candidates for elected office can use official ASDA logo on campaign documents; revises the rules on violations to be more concise; and places House of Delegates nomination information into the Standing Rules of the House of Delegates.
- Section 7. Elections, C. 'Presentation of Platform to the House of Delegates': clarifies presentation procedures for candidates who are running for president/vice president.
- Section 7. Elections, F. 'Casting Ballots': reflects the current balloting process.

#### Current Statements on Policy or Procedures

- A-5 Disclosure of Graduation Requirements: encourages dental schools to distribute changes in graduation requirements as soon as possible.
- A-16 Dental Student Participation in Lobby Days and Organized Dentistry Events: makes the policy more succinct and more inclusive of all organized dentistry events that students might participate in.

The Governance Work Group determined that the following policy should be rescinded and submitted the following resolution to the 2017 House of Delegates:

- A-13 Dental Student Participation in the Give Kids a Smile Program: rescinds this policy which is already captured in the A-16 policy.

#### Standing Rules of the Board of Trustees

The Governance Work Group reviewed the Standing Rules of the Board of Trustees and proposed amendments to the 2016-17 Board of Trustees.

The following amendments were adopted by the Board.

- Section 4. ASDA Delegation to the ADA House of Delegates: clarifies the process of choosing the ASDA Delegation to the ADA House of Delegates.
- Section 5. Financial, D. 'Expense Reimbursement Policy': removes language about the national leader excusal process that does not pertain to expense reimbursement. Furthermore, Section 24. National Leader Attendance is added to clarify the national leader excusal request process.
- Section 11. Suggested National Leadership Calendar 'January': modifies language about national leadership application due dates to reflect current processes.
- Section 16. Expulsion of a Member: reflects language found in the ASDA Bylaws.

The following amendments will be reviewed by the Board.

- Section 1. Meetings of the Board of Trustees, C. 'Written Ballots': clarifies that Board consent given through email is permitted.
- Section 2. Standing Committees: clarifies the association's leadership structure.
- Section 3. Appointment of National Leaders to Councils and Work Groups: removes redundant rules in Section 3 that are captured in Section 2. Leadership Structure.

The Governance Work Group determined that the following section should be rescinded. This amendment will be reviewed by the Board of Trustees:

- Section 10. Appointment of National Leaders: rescinds information that is now found in revised Sections 2 and 3 of the Board Standing Rules.