

## **Governance Work Group**

### **Members:**

Alex Mitchell, Temple '18, chair; Abby Halpern, Georgia '18, speaker of the House; Roopali Kulkarni, Pennsylvania '19, district 3 trustee; Alexandra Howell, Georgia '19, district 4 trustee; and Keely O'Sullivan, senior coordinator, governance, staff liaison.

### **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 Delegate of the Year Award, which recognizes the significant accomplishments of delegates. The GWG recommended that the award focus on the mentorship achievements of delegates and that current and past national leaders should not be eligible for this award.
- The 2016-17 GWG determined a need to clarify ASDA's leadership structure. The work group proposed amendments to the Bylaws and Board Standing Rules. The 2017 ASDA House of Delegates approves the Bylaws amendments. The 2017-18 GWG reviewed the proposed amendments to Board Standing Rules from the 2016-17 group and agreed on additional edits (see Council Business).
- The GWG was tasked with reviewing proposed amendments to the District Bylaws. The amendments will help districts facilitate business and clarify the nominations from the floor process for the district trustee position. Districts will review these changes at Annual Session.
- The GWG agreed that significant policy changes should be considered for the F-4 Student Debt and E-4 Sensitivity to Diversity policies. Since these policies fall outside the scope of the GWG, F-4 was tasked to the 2018-19 Council on Advocacy and E-4 was tasked to the 2018-19 Council on Professional Issues.

### **Council Business:**

#### **Governing Documents:**

The GWG reviewed ASDA's governing documents and submitted resolutions to the 2018 House of Delegates. The GWG proposed the following amendments.

#### **Bylaws**

- Article VII. Elections, Section 1. Candidacy: requires candidates from the floor to submit application materials prior to the first House of Delegates meeting. This ensures that all candidates are in academic good standing and that delegates have the necessary information to vote on officers.

#### **Standing Rules of House of Delegates**

- Section 5. Reference Committees, F. Reports: reflects the current process of considering substitute resolutions from reference committees. The amendments also clarifies that each reference committee gives a report.
- Section 7. Elections, B. Election Code of Conduct: clarifies that the nominators of nominees from the floor should not be past or current national leaders.

- Section 10. Establishing a New Predoctoral Chapter: removes the final Board confirmation of new predoctoral chapters. It is unnecessary for the Board to grant the final approval as they review the charter request prior to the House of Delegates' approval.
- Section 11. Officer Position Descriptions, Speaker of the House: clarifies that candidates for Speaker of the House should have past national ASDA leadership experience.

#### Current Statements on Policy or Procedures

- E-2 Conflict Resolution: makes the policy more succinct and reflective of the diversity of chapter leadership structures.
- E-3 School Closings: clarifies that fourth year students at a closing dental school should be able to graduate from their school.
- E-10 Freedom to Invite Vendors/Speakers: reflects the entire scope of work student leaders have with vendors.

The GWG determined that the following policy should be rescinded and submitted the following resolution to the 2018 House of Delegates:

- A-10 Dental Degree Designations: rescinds this policy which is redundant as the Commission on Dental Accreditation already defines predoctoral training as leading to the DDS or DMD degree.

#### 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 2017-18 Board of Trustees.

The following amendments were adopted by the Board.

- Section 1. Meetings of the Board of Trustees, E. Megatopic Discussions: reflects the current process.
- Section 2. Standing Committees: clarifies the association's leadership structure by defining each leadership category, its purpose and appointment process. The following categories were included: Standing Committees, Management Committees, Advisory Committees and Task Forces.
- Section 3. Appointment of National Leaders to Councils and Work Groups: removes redundant language in Section 3 that is already captured in the proposed Section 2. Leadership Structure.
- Section 4. ASDA Delegation to the ADA House of Delegates: reflects the current appointment process of the delegation chair and grants the Executive Committee (EC) the responsibility to determine appropriate application materials. Aligns the process with other EC appointments that do not require Board approval.
- Section 12. Filling a Vacancy of a Leader: clarifies that the EC is responsible for nominating students to vacant national leader positions. Determines that former EC members are best suited to fill a vacancy in the Immediate Past President position.
- Section 19. ASDA Consultants: Aligns the process with other EC appointments that do not require Board approval.

The Board approved the following rescissions:

- Section 10. Appointment of National Leaders: rescinds information that is now found in revised Sections 2 and 3 of the Board Standing Rules.
- Section 11. Suggested National Leadership Calendar: rescinds information that changes year-to-year and is already captured in the district trustee timeline.