Council on Professional Issues

Members

Sydney Shapiro, Columbia ‘21, chair; Joell Chen, Roseman ‘21, council associate; Justin Groody, North Carolina ‘20, council associate; Julia Cheung, Pennsylvania ‘21, district 3 trustee; Aditi Desai, Roseman ‘21, district 10 trustee; Robin Lieberman, executive assistant, staff liaison.

Mission

The 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.

Council business

- **Diversity and inclusion**: The council celebrated ASDA’s second annual World Day for Cultural Diversity and Inclusion on May 21. ASDA members were asked the following questions to engage on social media: “How do you incorporate diversity into your dental school experience?” and “How do you celebrate diversity?” National ASDA reposted content which was seen by an average of 600 people.
  - 10 of 11 districts participated
  - 26 schools participated
  - 119 total Instagram posts

- **Ethics**: The council reviewed ASDA’s E-8 Student Code of Ethics policy and recommended edits via a resolution to ASDA’s 2020 House of Delegates. The edits intended to make ASDA’s policy more closely aligned to the ADA’s.

- **Community service and outreach**
  - Community service activity at Fall Council: the council organized ASDA’s first community service event at a national meeting to highlight the importance of community service and demonstrate how easy it is to incorporate into busy meetings.
    - The activity took place during lunch at the 2019 Fall Council meeting.
    - 45 cards were made by national ASDA leaders and sent to children at Shriner’s hospital in Chicago with cleft lip and palates.
  - The council updated ASDA’s How-To guide on community service, including new templates to streamline service events and updated chapter service event spotlights.
  - The council held ASDA’s third annual Week of Service January 17-25, 2020.
    - New this year:
      - As a change from previous years, all chapters were encouraged to hold events during the week.
        - X number of chapters held an event.
      - The council worked with ASDA’s video production managers to create a promotional video to encourage chapter participation. The video was...
highlighted on various ASDA platforms including email, New Leader, and social media.

- The council organized a national canned food drive challenge as an extension of the week, which ran Jan. 1-25, 2020.
  - X number of chapters participated in the canned food drive challenge.
  - X number of cans were donated to local food shelters.
- The council submitted a proposal to the Committee on Sessions, which was approved, to hold a Chapter Idea Exchange on community service at Annual Session 2020.