

#28

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Q1

Select your chapter.

**The University of Iowa College of Dentistry and Dental
Clinics, Iowa City, IA**

Q2

Select your district

District 8

Q3

Your Name

Kayla Minor

Q4

Chapter Position

Gold Crown Video Chair

Q5

Your Email

kayla-minor@uiowa.edu

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Q6

Describe one member engagement and value event or chapter member benefit program aimed at increasing member engagement and value. *This excludes the submission of multiple events that are part of a single week-long or month-long challenge e.g., the discussion of various events during a chapter's Fever Week. (250 word limit. Responses longer than 250 words will be cut.)

IASDA's Fever Week hosts an annual Back to School Barbecue where students, staff, and faculty of the University of Iowa College of Dentistry can enjoy burgers, hot dogs, and side dishes while mingling and learning about Iowa's chapter of ASDA. This year, we had over 100 people in attendance, strengthening relationships across the college. To encourage family involvement at the event, we rented a Pop-a-Shot basketball machine, Jenga, and cornhole (#Iowans). Plus, several dental students got artsy and volunteered to provide face-painting for those interested. Beyond these games, we understand that it can feel stressful for students to interact with staff and faculty due to an incorrectly perceived power differential. Iowa's faculty work hard to nurture a friendly environment at school, so IASDA reinforced this by introducing a new fundraiser where students and faculty could volunteer to be pie'd in the face for the highest bidder in the audience. Beyond fostering a friendship, this raised \$400 for our group and was the highlight of the event.

Q7

Describe one chapter community service event that creates connections with our communities. *This excludes the submission of multiple events that are part of a single week-long or month-long challenge (250 word limit. Responses longer than 250 words will be cut.)

The proudest community service event our chapter of ASDA organized this year was our visit to the Boys and Girls Club in Iowa City. Over 80 students from kindergarten to 8th grade learned more about oral health through a presentation, interactive activities, and connecting with dental students. These activities included learning about the benefits of fluoride, how fluoride works, how much sugar is in certain drinks, and how to floss. Students also became familiar with dental terms through dental bingo, identifying plaque with plaque disclosing tablets, and got a bag with dental hygiene products at the end of the event. 13 IASDA students participating in this event learned how to better interact with pediatric patients, communicate the benefits of maintaining oral health in small groups, and collaborate with those in other classes. They also increased their presentation skills by informing students about how cavities form, what kinds of foods and beverages are good for teeth, how to brush, and asking students questions. The students had a lot of fun and formed friendships with the ASDA students at the end of the event. The students, their parents, and the Boys and Girls Club supervisors seemed appreciative of the oral health products and had a positive outlook on the College of Dentistry. This event created a bond between the Boys and Girls Club and ASDA students, which can be further strengthened through additional events and other events in the local community.

Q8

Describe one chapter advocacy event that educates and involves members in ASDA's advocacy and legislative priorities. *This excludes the submission of multiple events that are part of a single week-long or month-long challenge (250 word limit. Responses longer than 250 words will be cut.)

This year, IASDA's Legislative Liaisons selected a group of 14 dental students to take to the state capitol in Des Moines, Iowa to meet with Iowan legislators in one-on-one meetings. This gave students time to advocate for change, explain the importance of several topics impacting dentistry in Iowa, and contribute to the efforts that resulted in three landmark bills being passed. The first bill passed increased Medicaid reimbursements by \$2.1 million in Iowa, marking the first increase in Iowa's Medicaid reimbursements in 20 years. The second bill aimed at improving Iowa's dental labor shortage by lowering barriers for assistants to work in Iowa. Dental assistants no longer have a registration requirement to work and can be practically trained on the job. The third bill included three huge insurance reforms for dentists including: ERISA notifications, limiting retroactive denials, and protecting prior authorizations. With this bill we were able to protect dentists from insurance companies' rejecting previously approved prior authorizations and demanding clawbacks from procedures performed months or even years in the past. Additionally, by mandating ERISA notifications, it makes navigating which plans are state versus federally regulated more manageable. Passing these bills will allow Iowan dentists to better serve our population and improve the lives of our patients. Beyond the specific accomplishments made at State Lobby Day, this event served as an introduction to organized dentistry for dental students. The hope is this will encourage students to continue advocating as they finish school and begin practicing in the community.

Q9

Describe one chapter wellness event that educates members and involves members in ASDA's Five Dimensions of Wellness. *This excludes the submission of multiple events that are part of a single week-long or month-long challenge (250 word limit. Responses longer than 250 words will be cut.)

We are definitely not cupcakes here at Iowa, but we realize that if you don't take care of the mind and body, burnout is inevitable. To wrap up IASDA's Fever Week this year, we held a sand volleyball tournament that gathered over 60 students. People enjoyed food, nice weather, good music, and a night away from the classroom, competing with and against their friends to earn bragging rights. It especially allowed students to participate in physical wellness, which may be hard to maintain while in school. Those not interested in playing volleyball had some stress relief by bringing their pets and cheering on (or trash-talking) their friends. Importantly, we all know how nice it is as an underclassman to become friends with upperclassmen. Not only can these upperclassmen provide great pieces of advice, but they also serve as an example that life goes on when dental school makes you feel like your life is falling apart. Knowing this, IASDA ensured the sand volleyball tournament brought students from all grades together and provided a way for underclassmen to become friends with upperclassmen, forming relationships that will grow for years to come.

Q10

Describe one chapter event that develops professional and leadership skills of chapter members. (250 word limit. Responses longer than 250 words will be cut.)

The largest event that helped University of Iowa ASDA students develop leadership skills was the three-day District 8 conference in St. Louis. Our chapter had a large number of students serving on the District 8 cabinet, as well as attendees. The district trustee and 15 members of the cabinet were University of Iowa students, indicating a strong desire from our ASDA members to take on leadership positions. Our chapter also brought 69 students to the conference, including many underclassmen and several pre-dental students. This early exposure to ASDA inspired many incoming dental and undergraduate dental students to run for positions in the University of Iowa's ASDA chapter and the District 8 cabinet for this current school year. Students learned about topics such as dental support organizations, caring for pediatric patients, insurance, owning a practice, botox and filler, as well as rural dentistry. They were able to connect with insurance agents, representatives of dental supply companies, practicing dentists, specialists, future employers, financial planners, and a variety of others involved in dentistry. Students in our chapter also had the opportunity to form friendships with those attending other dental schools, many of which extended beyond the conference. IASDA students in the cabinet helped provide a meaningful experience to not only students in their chapter, but those throughout the district as well, emphasizing the benefit that ASDA can bring dental students in their future careers. Overall, Iowa students' participation in the District 8 conference helped them become more professional, communicative, and capable individuals.

Q11

Describe one chapter communication (such as an enewsletter, the chapter website, or chapter social media campaign) that keeps members informed about ASDA. (250 word limit. Responses longer than 250 words will be cut.)

Effective communication was key in our success as the University of Iowa's chapter of ASDA this year. As students, sometimes checking emails isn't the top priority, but we all know that social media has taken hold of our lives as a primary socializing method. Our team has been extremely successful in the utilization of social media as our primary method of communication. Not only have we seen higher attendance rates this year, we also received positive feedback on our social media posts; it was how students found out about our events. Our team utilized the app Instagram as a way to communicate. Posts were created and edited with the intent to be eye catching and informative. Students would engage by liking, commenting and sharing our posts so other students who may have missed the message can be reminded. Of course, we also used email as a way to get the message out. Not every student has social media, so a standardized messaging system is necessary. Our emails were often constructed with humor, but always with professionalism and punctuality. Due to our Instagram page, we found students to be more motivated, better informed, and further engaged in our activities and events. Our member communications team was on fire this year, and we believe that without their efforts and ingenuity, we wouldn't have been as successful. We're excited to move forward as a chapter with a strong foundation of what successful member communication looks like.

Q12

Respondent skipped this question

Upload the communication piece your chapter described in the communications category as a PDF or link below.

Q13

Add your communication piece link below.

<https://www.instagram.com/iowaasda/?hl=en>

Q14

Submit your chapter's YouTube video link.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A4VUjG_uVH8

Q15

Submit your chapter's Google Drive or DropBox video link.

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/fctvr7fewjbtivw9dts36/2025-IASDA-Gold-Crown-video.mp4?rlkey=2ynr9yrcjimzm1w8fvsxz0fjl&e=1&st=yrspsz44z&dl=0>
