

#26

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Page 1

Q1

Select your chapter.

University of Kentucky College of Dentistry, Lexington,
KY

Q2

Select your district

District 6

Q3

Your Name

Olivia Hamilton

Q4

Chapter Position

President-Elect

Q5

Your Email

ojha223@uky.edu

Page 2

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.)

Each year in early August, UK ASDA celebrates FEVER Week – a jam packed week of all things UK ASDA. There are tons of events including breakfast hosted by Heartland Dental, lunch and learns sponsored by ADA Members Insurance Plans, and a hydration station generously gifted by Alani Nu; that introduce students to the idea of ASDA, encouraging them to pay their annual dues and join the formative organization we all know and love. The event we'd like to highlight for this category is our annual Welcome Back Picnic that we host during FEVER Week. At this event, students, faculty, staff, and even residents are invited to gather at a local park to enjoy a cookout and camaraderie between friends. This year, members of our Social Committee even manned the grill! We fostered a friendly competition for the best side dish or dessert, the winner taking home a Starbucks gift card - a beloved necessity to dental school at UK. We also promoted physical and environmental wellness at this event with outdoor games such as volleyball, spikeball, and corn hole! Bringing everyone together for a night of fun is an event that we so love to host year after year. FEVER Week was very successful this year, leading us to recruit 52 new D1s from a class of 65. Impressive considering we are not auto-enrolled! We even managed to gain a handful of D3 and D4 members who had never been a part of ASDA.

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.)

UK ASDA's most well-known community service initiative is Saturday Morning Clinic, a free dental clinic held at the college for children in the Lexington community. SMC is hosted once a month on a Saturday morning, with students and faculty volunteering their time and talents to provide free care. In 2025, UK ASDA provided a combined \$38,445 worth of dental care to our community - \$19,965 in the four clinics hosted in the fall semester! Treatment provided includes extractions, stainless steel crowns, fillings, SDF application, comprehensive exams and radiographs, cleanings, and of course lots of fluoride varnish. Our biggest clinic this fall was our November SMC where we provided over \$6,200 of care within three hours. We are so thankful to our Pediatric faculty and student volunteers for giving up their time early on a Saturday morning to take care of our 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.)

After making improvements in advocacy awareness last year, UK ASDA built on that this year in a big way. Attending the ADA Lobby Day was an exciting way to kickstart our efforts back on campus. We began Advocacy month launching an advocate of the month challenge to encourage participation. It began with a lunch and learn by our ADA district trustee, KDA Executive Director, and our legislative liaison who shared a very impactful conversation with our students. Our students asked meaningful questions and are excited to share their voices at the upcoming KDA Lobby Day in February. Each consecutive week had a theme such as student loan reform, where our students could get a snack that had Monopoly money on it. Then they "spent" that money by telling our LL a fact about student loan changes to earn points towards advocate of the month. Another week, we put together dental hygiene kits that were donated to a local shelter to help bridge the gap in oral health access in our community. We had advocacy trivia questions posted around campus one week as well. These challenges encouraged students to research important topics that we are advocating for both locally and nationally. Our efforts were recognized when our chapter won the D6 and 7 Advocacy Month Chapter Challenge, and we hope this will continue to ignite the passion for advocacy on our campus in the future.

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.)

After the overwhelming positive feedback UK ASDA received in 2024, we continued on with hosting a wellness month each semester rather than a wellness week. While our 2 Wellness Months of 2025 were packed with events, our favorite wellness initiative of the year was our Wellness Social Media Challenges hosted last spring semester. With the use of social media, we encouraged members to reflect on their physical, emotional and intellectual wellness journeys. Members shared photos of them with their dental school besties, their favorite form of self care, and what their life looks like outside of school. We had so much fun chatting with members about their responses and reposting them for all of UK ASDA to see. This initiative provided members with a creative outlet, emphasized the importance of appreciating the little things in life, and generated consistent member engagement with the organization. Participation in the Wellness Social Media Challenge, attending the weekly free workout class and taking advantage of free weekly breakfast, earned members entry into wellness themed raffle prizes. We find that raffles get members fired up & excited about ASDA, which dramatically improves member participation and allows us to reach more students with our initiatives.

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.)

This year, UK ASDA introduced a variety of new initiatives aimed at fostering leadership skills and supporting the professional growth of its members. One of the most notable events, held annually in the spring, is ASDA Day, which is organized by the UK ASDA Day committee. This event serves as a highlight of the academic calendar, bringing together faculty, staff, and students for a day of inspiration, recognition, and networking. Central to the event is the Dr. Barr Lecture, delivered by a distinguished dentist chosen by the committee. This year, alumnus of UK College of Dentistry Dr. Troy Pearce, captivated the audience with a presentation about the journey he took from his time at UK to where he is now—team dentist for the Cincinnati Bengals football team. He shared how the foundation he built at UK combined with key mentorship, cunning marketing strategies, and invaluable referral sources ultimately opened the door for him to provide dentistry for some of the biggest names in the NFL. His insights resonated with attendees, offering valuable takeaways for both personal and professional growth. ASDA Day also celebrates the achievements of its members by presenting awards to individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the organization over the past year. This moment of recognition emphasizes the importance of dedication and active involvement within ASDA. Additionally, the event serves as a platform to announce the incoming executive board and cabinet members, symbolizing a transition of leadership and a renewed vision for the year ahead. Following the lecture, the day continued with a vendor fair, where students had the opportunity to connect with dental companies, explore career pathways, and discover resources for furthering their education. This interactive fair provided a valuable networking experience which enabled students to engage directly with potential employers and industry representatives.

Q11

Describe one chapter communication (such as an newsletter, 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.)

For the first time year, UK ASDA developed a new leadership position held by two individuals—our content creators. The content creators are responsible for creating fun and engaging TikToks and Instagram reels to increase membership and engagement, publicize the events hosted by our other committees, and boost morale among members during particularly trying times during the semester. These two individuals work tirelessly to come up with new concepts and take part in ongoing trends they know our members will love. They have made waves across UKCD, even inspiring some faculty and course directors to incentivize students to create viral TikToks showcasing the digital dentistry workflows they are learning in the simulation lab.

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.tiktok.com/@uk..asda?_r=1&_t=ZT-92QSnioht2j

Page 3

Q14

Submit your chapter's YouTube video link.

https://youtube.com/shorts/jglXVI2Ry8c?si=OEKFbGyANEG_l80J

Q15

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

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1m96jtkkFFThSFFWzEGZsbp6M2gTVsMPS/view?usp=drivesdk>
