

Unofficial Report of Major Actions
Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations
March 12, 2008

The Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations met at the American Dental Association Headquarters on Tuesday and Wednesday, March 11-12, 2008, and took the following actions.

1. Adopted a policy that the composition of future *ad hoc* committees of the Joint Commission includes members from each stakeholder group in proportion to their representation on the Joint Commission.
2. Approved the reappointment of eligible test construction committee members and the appointment of new test constructors and alternates for National Board Dental and Dental Hygiene Examinations for 2009.
3. Approved the 2009 budget proposal and the list of 2008-2009 research and development projects and expenditures related to the National Board examination programs.
4. Approved of revisions to the *Examination Regulations* and *Standing Rules*, including a provision to allow electronic reporting of examination results through posting on a secure website.
5. Approved of reporting National Board examination performance as pass/fail effective in 2010, excepting that more detailed information will be provided to failing candidates.
6. Approved a change in eligibility requirements such that candidates who pass the National Board examinations cannot retake the examination unless requested or required by a licensing jurisdiction.
7. Suggested that the appropriate agency or organization develop an alternative testing instrument for use in the admission process for advanced dental education programs.
8. Approved the appointment of an *ad hoc* committee to develop a strategic plan for the Joint Commission to 1) investigate the potential merging of Part I and Part II into one examination and 2) to study the feasibility of a plan to restructure the National Board Part I and Part II test construction committees.
9. Approved the appointment of an *ad hoc* committee to gather information and develop a potential framework with specific criteria for international testing.
10. Expanded the small grants program to include formally chartered and recognized international programs among the entities eligible for submission of proposals.
11. Approved a study of the feasibility of increasing the number of cases on Part II and reducing the number of items nested in cases in order to optimize reliability.
12. Approved the funding through the IDEA grant program to support the research proposed by Kristin Z. Victoroff, D.D.S., Ph.D. entitled *Interactive Virtual Reality Patient-based Scenarios for Student Achievement*.

13. Approved of an eligibility requirement that internationally trained dentists, from non-accredited dental schools, once enrolled in a predoctoral dental program in the U.S. be required to request certification of the dental school dean where the students are enrolled in order to be eligible to take the National Board examinations.
14. Approved that a letter be sent to the academic deans responding to their concerns regarding test content, administration, and scoring of Part I and Part II of the National Boards.
15. Elected Dr. Ron Seeley as chair and Dr. Mark Christensen as vice chair of the Joint Commission for terms beginning October 2008.

Dr. Marsha A. Pyle (ADEA) chair
Dr. Eva Ackley (AADE)
Dr. Susan Calderbank (AADE)
Dr. Mark Christensen (AADE)
Dr. George "Buck" D. Conard, Jr. (AADE)
Ms. Barbara Leatherman Dixon (ADHA)
Dr. Bruce D. Horn (AADE)
Dr. Marsha A. Pyle (ADEA)
Dr. Stephen T. Radack, III (ADA)
Dr. Michael S. Reddy (ADEA)
Mr. Zeno W. St. Cyr, II (Public)
Dr. Jonathan Schutze (ADA)
Dr. Ron Seeley (ADA)
Dr. Andrew Spielman (ADEA)
Mr. Daniel Stoner (ASDA)
Dr. Darlene Sand Wall (AADE)