

From the Chair

In January 2007, the Commission implemented the revised review committee structure, with the addition of a public member and a general dentist on each review committee.

As the new structure was implemented, concerns were expressed that there were not enough content experts on certain review committees.

A process was developed to add additional review committee content experts in these circumstances. The following review committees have added a content expert member to facilitate efficient review of programs:

- Endodontics
- Oral and maxillofacial surgery
- Orthodontics
- Periodontics
- Pediatric dentistry
- Prosthodontics

A survey was distributed to individuals who were Commissioners and/or review committee members during 2007 and 2008. Results of the survey show that:

- 79% of respondents who have attended at least one review committee meeting agree or strongly agree that the new membership structure meets the needs of their review committee(s)
- 68% of respondents who have attended at least one review committee meeting agree or strongly agree that non-subject matter experts on review committees were prepared to conduct the committee's business
- 80% of respondents who have attended at least one review committee meeting agree or strongly agree that non-subject matter experts



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Deadlines for

- on review committees actively participate in committee discussions
- 33.3% of respondents who have attended at least one review committee meeting believe that the addition of new members who are not subject matter experts has had a positive impact on the work of their committee(s), while more than half said there was no impact or it was too early to tell.

What we learned is that most respondents were satisfied with the revised structure; however, a large number indicated they had not attended a sufficient number of review committee meetings under the revised structure to permit them to fully evaluate the impact.

The Commission is planning to conduct surveys on the review committee structure in 2010 and 2011.

Changes in Commission Policy (from the July 2009 Commission meeting)

The Commission adopted one (1) new policy, approved the revision of seven (7) policies not scheduled for review, approved the revision of five (5) policies scheduled for their five-year review, reaffirmed ten (10) policies scheduled for their five-year review, rescinded one (1) policy, and deferred consideration of two (2) policies until a later date.

The following changes in Commission policies are highlighted:

- The Commission approved the reorganization of Commission policy on due process to more clearly outline the steps involved in due process, and consolidates due process policy and procedures found in several places within the Commission's policies and procedures manuals.
- The Commission revised the policy on nominations to specialty or discipline specific positions on review committees. Nominating organizations must submit at least two nominees and may elect to rank their nominees, if they so choose. If fewer than 2 nominees are submitted, the appointment process will be delayed until such time as the minimum number of required nominations is received. The Commission acknowledged that although it may be difficult for smaller groups to bring forward a large number of nominees, it was important for the Nominating Committee to be able to consider at least two (2) individuals.

Education Programs

Self Study: submit 60 days prior to visit

Links:

- [Submit a Question](#)
- [Accreditation News](#)
- [Accredited Programs](#)
- [List of Commissioners](#)

- The Commission revised its advertising policy to state that the CODA logo cannot be used alone without the CODA advertising statement. When used in electronic publications, the logo must link to the Commission web site. In addition, the Commission determined that in order to enhance the information provided to the public, the Commission's web address should be added to the advertising statement.
- The Commission will further explore the use of distance technology (videoconferencing) to conduct site visits through a pilot project.
- Programs must report a Major Change 30 days prior to the implementation of the change.

Accreditation Actions Updated

Programs that have been notified of the Commission's "Intent to Withdraw Accreditation" in February 2010 (if they do not achieve compliance) can be found on ADA.org under Information on the Dental Schools and Programs page.

Accredited programs can be searched by state and discipline here:

ADA.org/prof/ed/programs/search_index.asp

Did you know...?

- Special appearances in front of review committees may be made either by conference call or in person.
- At the last two Commission meetings, a total of 526 accreditation actions were taken, including site visit reports, progress reports, reports of major change, and changes in sponsorship.
- The Commission now accredits over 1,350 dental and allied dental programs in the United States. Forty-six (46) hold the status of "Initial Accreditation."
- Seventy (70) programs were found to have deficiencies or areas of noncompliance and hold the status of "Approval with Reporting Requirements." Each of the 70 programs has been given a specified time period to demonstrate compliance with all accreditation standards.

Report of Unofficial Actions Now Available

You can download your copy of the Unofficial Actions from the CODA 2009 Summer Meeting at ADA.org.

Community of Interest Information Session

The CODA Community of Interest Information session was held on August 21st, in the form of a Webinar. This combines aspects of a conference call and PowerPoint presentation.

The webinar was attended by 45 individuals who discussed an overview of the accreditation process, the ADA Task Force on CODA, confidentiality, transparency and conflict of interest, amongst other topics. We would like to thank the members of the Community of Interest that were able to attend.

CODA Meeting Dates

New CODA Commission and Review Committee meeting dates have been approved for 2010 and 2011. You can download a copy of the dates from the [Accreditation News](#).

New CODA Officers and Commissioners

Officer elections were held at the July 2009 CODA meeting. Dr. Les Tarver (Louisiana) was elected to the Chair position and Dr. Bryan Edgar (Washington) was elected to Vice-Chair position. The following people were appointed as new Commissioners by the appropriate sponsoring organizations:

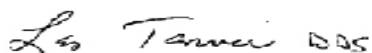
- Dr. Michael Biermann (Oregon)
- Dr. Eric Carlson (Tennessee)
- Ms. Elizabeth Curran (Arizona)
- Mr. Corwyn Hopke (New York)
- Dr. Kent Knoernschild (Illinois)
- Dr. Judith Messura (North Carolina)
- Dr. Leo Rouse (Washington, DC)

They officially started their duties after the ADA Annual session.

Documents out for Comment

Please see the [Accreditation News](#) for review of documents currently out for comment.

Sincerely,



Les Tarver, D.D.S.
Chair

