

Commission on Dental Accreditation
Unofficial Report of Major Actions
July 31, 2008

1. The Commission reviewed accreditation reports and took 290 accreditation actions on dental, advanced dental and allied dental education programs. Initial accreditation was granted to three general practice residency programs, one advanced education in general dentistry program, two advanced general dentistry programs in dental anesthesiology, one dental assisting program, four dental hygiene programs and one pediatric dentistry program. Three general practice residency programs, one advanced education in general dentistry program, four dental assisting education programs, one dental laboratory technology program and one oral and maxillofacial surgery residency program each received a formal warning that accreditation will be withdrawn in January 2009 unless the requested information, demonstrating compliance with the accreditation standards, is submitted prior to that time. The Commission discontinued the accreditation of one dental assisting program, one dental public health program and one maxillofacial prosthodontics program, at the request of their respective sponsoring institutions.
2. The Commission adopted revised Accreditation Standards in the following education areas: Advanced Specialty Education Programs in Endodontics with an implementation date of January 1, 2009; Advanced Specialty Education Programs in Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology with an implementation date of July 1, 2009; Advanced Specialty Education Programs in Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics with an implementation date of July 1, 2009; Advanced Specialty Education Programs in Periodontics with an implementation date of January 1, 2009; and Advanced Specialty Education Programs in Prosthodontics with an implementation date of January 1, 2009.
3. The Commission approved the circulation of the following proposed revised Accreditation Standards for comments by the communities of interest: Predoctoral Dental Education Accreditation Standards for review at the July 2009 Commission meeting; proposed revisions to selected standards for Advanced General Dentistry Education Programs in Dental Anesthesia and Advanced General Dentistry Education Programs in Oral Medicine, with an October 1, 2008 deadline for comments and review at the January 2009 Commission meeting; Dental Hygiene Education Accreditation Standard 2-17 for review at the July 2009 Commission meeting; and Clinical Fellowship Training Programs in Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics for review at the January 2009 Commission meeting. Draft Accreditation Standards for Advanced General Dentistry Education Programs in Orofacial Pain were approved for circulation to the communities of interest for comment and will be reviewed at the Commission's July 2009 meeting.

4. The Commission approved a request for the addition of a peer, subject matter expert member to the Review Committee on Pediatric Dentistry Education and to the Review Committee on Prosthodontic Education for implementation at the Commission's January, 2009 meeting. The Commission directed that this additional member be appointed based on joint nominations from the sponsoring organization and the certifying board of each of these respective specialties.
5. The Commission adopted the following recommendations to address the size and quality of Accreditation reports submitted by programs: the "Format" section of the Commission's various report guidelines is to be reviewed and enhanced to clearly identify the Commission's expectation of clear and concise reports; verbiage is to be created within the various report guidelines to make known the expectation of timely submission of reports as well as the consequences of late or improperly formatted submissions; the transmittal letter process will be modified so that report guidelines are provided to program directors in addition to institution administrators; and finally, the Commission will enhance the training programs, Site Visit Orientation and Consultant Training/Update to include additional guidance and directive on report preparation.
6. The Commission reviewed and approved the updated Operational Effectiveness Assessment Plan and adopted revisions to four policies. One proposed revision to policy was referred back to the Standing Committee on Outcomes Assessment for further review. Additional policies scheduled for their five-year review were reaffirmed (4), revised (5) or rescinded (1). One policy revision was deferred, pending the January 2009 report of the ADA Task Force to Study the Commission.
7. The following initiatives were adopted by the Commission to enhance communication between the Commission and the communities of interest: an electronic newsletter is to be created and distributed on a regular schedule to all communities of interest; informal sessions/presentations will be expanded at annual meetings of sponsoring organizations, the ADA, and the ADEA; the Commission will look into establishing a direct link to an accreditation website from ada.org; and the "Unofficial Report of Major Actions" will be sent via e-mail to all communities of interest following the Commission meetings, as well as being posted on the CODA portion of the ADA website.
8. The Commission will appoint an *ad hoc* committee to assess the entire site visit process, including the feasibility of conducting site visits using alternative methods, the financial implications, and the possibility of conducting a pilot project in the future.
9. The Commission elected Mr. Lee E. Koppelman as the new public member of the Commission and approved nominees to fill vacancies for discipline specific positions, public member positions and non-disciplines specific positions on its review committees beginning October 2008.

10. The Commission referred a request from the Council on Dental Education and Licensure for the dissemination of the rationale for Accreditation Standards revisions when presented to the communities of interest for comment to the Standing Committee on Documentation.
11. The Commission elected Dr. James J. Koelbl as chair and Dr. E. Les Tarver as vice chair, October 2008 through October 2009.

Commission Members: Dr. Bruce J. Barrette, Dr. Heidi C. Crow, Dr. Teresa A. Dolan, Dr. Bryan Edgar, Dr. Cecile Feldman, Mr. Gary Gann, Ms. Kathleen Griffin, Dr. Jeffrey W. Hutter, chair, Dr. Vincent J. Iacono, Dr. Donald Joondeph, Dr. Mel Kantor, Dr. Karen Kershenstein, Dr. James J. Koelbl, vice-chair, Dr. Patrick J. Louis, Ms. Sharon McPherron, Dr. Dennis McTigue (representing Dr. Paul Cassamissimo), Dr. Logan Nalley, Dr. Larry Nissen, Dr. Reuben Pelot III, Mr. Jason Pickup, Dr. Michael Reed, Ms. Mary K. Richter, Dr. Matthew B. Roberts, Dr. Richard Smith, Ms. Diana Macalus Sullivan, Dr. E. Les Tarver, Mr. Kenneth C. Thomalla, Dr. Sharon Turner, Dr. Ronald D. Woody, and Dr. John M. Wright.