COUNCIL ON DENTAL EDUCATION AND LICENSURE
AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION
VIDEO CONFERENCE, CHICAGO
SEPTEMBER 21, 2020

Call to Order: Dr. Linda C. Niessen, chair, called a meeting of the Council on Dental Education and Licensure to order on Monday, September 21, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. via video conference.

Roll Call: Dr. Rekha C. Gehani, Dr. Uri Hangorsky, Dr. Willis Stanton Hardesty Jr., Dr. Steven M. Lepowsky, Dr. Jun S. Lim, Dr. William M. Litaker, Dr. Maurice S. Miles, Dr. James D. Nickman, Dr. Linda C. Niessen, Dr. Joan Otomo-Corgel, Dr. Jacqueline Plemons, and Dr. Donna Thomas-Moses were present. Dr. David F. Boden, Dr. GeriAnn DiFranco, Dr. Bruce R. Donoff, Dr. Daniel A. Hammer, Dr. David L. Nielson and Mr. Craig McKenzie (American Student Dental Association representative) were unable to participate in the call.

Dr. John F. Harrington, ADA Board Liaison to the Council, was present.

The following Council staff members attended the meeting: Ms. Tierra Braxton, Coordinator, Ms. Karen M. Hart, Director, Ms. Annette Puzan, Manager, Dental Education and Licensure, and Dr. Meaghan Strotman, Senior Manager, Dental Licensure and Education. Dr. Anthony J. Ziebert, Senior Vice-President, Education and Professional Affairs also participated.

Adoption of Agenda, Disclosure of Business or Personal Relationships, and ADA Professional Conduct Policy: The Council approved the agenda. Dr. Niessen directed the Council’s attention to the ADA Disclosure Policy. No personal, professional or business relationships were disclosed.

2020 ADA House of Delegates Preliminary Schedule: The Council reviewed the House of Delegates and Related Activities Preliminary Schedule and noted that the virtual Hearing of the Reference Committee on Dental Education, Science and Related Matters is scheduled for Friday, October 16, 2020 from 12:30 pm to 2:00 pm.

CDEL Annual Report to the 2020 House of Delegates: Dr. Niessen called attention to the Council’s 2020 Annual Report to the House of Delegates.

CDEL Members Serving as Delegates/Alternates: Dr. Niessen asked Council members to confirm their attendance at the 2020 ADA Dental Meeting and whether they would be serving as a delegate or alternate. Additionally, Dr. Niessen informed the Council that the House of Delegates and Reference Committee Hearings would be conducted virtually via livestream broadcasts. Access to the Virtual House of Delegates and Virtual Reference Committee Hearings via an online platform will be provided to the same groups who would normally have access to the House floor at an in-person meeting. Delegates and alternate delegates will be automatically registered and provided a link to view the livestream broadcast of the Virtual House of Delegates and Virtual Reference Committee Hearings. Members who are not members of the House of Delegates must register in advance to view the livestream broadcasts. She encouraged Council members who are not members of the House of Delegates to complete the Registration Form posted on ADA.org as soon as possible. On Tuesday October 13 a link to the livestream broadcasts will be emailed to those who have registered.

Resolutions of Interest to CDEL and its Duties: Dr. Niessen led a discussion on resolutions related to the Council’s areas of responsibility. Resolution 1, submitted by the Council, calls for the review of ADA Policies: Dentistry and Dentistry as an Independent Profession. The Council has proposed that
the two policies be combined by amending the policy Dentistry and rescinding the policy Dentistry as an Independent Profession. The Board of Trustees has proposed an amendment to the resolution, changing the term “maxillofacial” to “craniomaxillofacial” in the first resolving clause. The Council was supportive of the Board’s proposal. The Council also discussed Resolution 84 submitted by the Board of Trustees which calls for the ADA Interim Policy, “Dentistry is Essential Healthcare” to be adopted by the House. Council members concluded that the second resolving clause of the proposed ADA policy Dentistry should be further amended with the addition of the term “essential” to align with the Board of Trustees’ Resolution 84 (addition underscored):

Resolved, that dentistry is essential and should remain an independent health care profession that safeguards, promotes and provides care for the health of the public in collaboration with other health care professionals.

Council Action: The Council directed that its proposed amendment to Resolution 1B be submitted to the Reference Committee on Education, Science and Related matters via the Reference Committee Testimony Form.

The Council also reviewed Resolution 100 Special Needs Dentistry submitted by the Second Trustee District. Resolution 100 calls for the Council to explore the feasibility of requesting an accreditation process by the Commission on Dental Accreditation for advanced education programs in special care dentistry. Further, Resolution 100 calls for the Council to address actionable strategies to enhance and expand pre-doctoral training; develop and promote continuing education programs for existing practitioners; and investigate advanced educational opportunities. It was noted that Resolution 100 has a $100,000 financial implication due to costs related to developing continuing education programs. Dr. Rekha Gehani explained that the Second Trustee District was planning to submit a substitute resolution focusing on developing strategies to promote continuing education activities rather than developing CE activities at this time. The Council was supportive of the intent of Resolution 100, but determined that a $100,000 financial implication could not be supported at this time. Accordingly, the Council concluded that the second resolve of Resolution 100 should be amended as follows (additions underscored; deletions stricken):

Resolved, that CDEL address actionable strategies to enhance and expand pre-doctoral training; develop and promote continuing education programs for existing practitioners; and investigate advanced educational opportunities, and be it further

Council Action: The Council directed that its proposed amendment to Resolution 100 be submitted to the Reference Committee on Education, Science and Related matters via the Reference Committee Testimony Form.

The Council reviewed Resolution 16 which will be considered by the Reference Committee on Dental Benefits, Practice and Related Matters. The Council collaborated with the Council on Dental Practice (CDP) this year on the amendment of the comprehensive ADA Policy Statement on Teledentistry. The Council fully supported amendment of the policy as reflected in Resolution 16. The Council agreed that these changes were necessary to stay abreast with the advancements over the past five years in teledentistry telecommunication technology.

The Council also reviewed several resolutions to be considered by the Reference Committee on Legislative, Health, Governance and Related Matters. In regard to Resolution 11, the Council agreed that the four policies, Compensation of Dental Specialists in the Federal Dental Services, Restoration of the Rank of Brigadier General to the Army Reserve Position of Deputy Assistant Surgeon General for
Dental Services, Dentistry in the Armed Forces, and Rank Equivalency for Chief Dental Officers of the Federal Dental Services, were similar in content and could be combined under a heading titled Rank and Status of Dentists in the Armed Forces, Military Reserves and Public Health Service. Dr. Niessen informed the Council members that she and Dr. Zack Kalarickal, member of the Council on Government Affairs, discussed the need to amend the proposed policy to cite the Commission on Dental Accreditation as the agency responsible for accrediting dental residency programs rather than the National Commission on Recognition of Dental Specialties and Certifying Boards. The Council requested staff to inform the director of the Council on Government Affairs that CDEL is supportive of the proposed amendment to be presented by the Council on Government Affairs at the Reference Committee Hearing.

The Council then reviewed Resolution 74 Elder Care Strategies on Continuing Education and Resolution 76 Elder Care Strategies on Increased Preparedness of Educational Institutions. The Council supported the importance of increasing understanding of the oral systemic health connection and management of the medically complex older adult to all dentists, rather than just members, and believed that the second resolve of Resolution 74 should be edited (addition underlined; deletion stricken):

Resolved, elevate the importance of both the oral-systemic connection and the dental management of the medically complex older adult to members dentists and the public, as appropriate, by:

The Council believed similar edits should be made to Resolution 76, but decided that the suggestions could be communicated to the agency assigned to Resolutions 74 and 76 subsequent to actions taken by the 2020 House of Delegates.

Finally, the Council reviewed Resolution 4 Amendment of the Policy Use of Dentist-To-Population Ratios, Resolution 5 Amendment of the Policy Suggested Dental Practice Acts, Resolution 23 Amendment of the Policy Encouraging the Development of Oral Health Literacy Continuing Education Programs and Resolution 59 Proposed Policy Regulatory Definitions of Dentistry. The Council considered these as informational and took no action.

2020-21 Standing Committee Assignments: The Council reviewed the Standing Committee Assignments for 2020-2021. Dr. Plemons informed the Council that an additional Council member has been assigned to the subcommittees on Anesthesiology, Continuing Education, Dental Admission Testing and Recognition of Specialties and Interest Areas in General Dentistry to serve in a vice-chair capacity and to provide a smoother transition to the committee chair position the following year.

CDEL Meeting January 2021: The next virtual meeting of the Council has been scheduled for January 21-22, 2021. Some Council members expressed concern about these dates. Council members will receive a Meeting Doodle poll and will be asked to indicate their availability for additional dates and time preferences.

Reminder- Fall Committee Meeting Dates: Council members were informed that in the coming weeks CDEL staff will be contacting the 2020-21 Committee chairs to determine dates for fall 2020 committee conference calls.

Adjournment: 7:28 PM, Monday, September 21, 2020