

**MEETING MINUTES OF THE
AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION
COUNCIL ON GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS
VIRTUAL
JANUARY 29-30, 2021**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Council on Government Affairs (CGA) was held virtually and was called to order by Dr. David White, CGA chair, at 9:39 AM CDT on January 29, 2021.

ROLL CALL

Members: (District 1) Dr. Abe Abdul, 2024; (District 2) Dr. Raymond Miller, 2023; (District 3) Dr. John Reitz, 2021; (District 4) Dr. Mark Vitale, 2022; (District 5) Dr. Greg Goggans, 2024; (District 6) Dr. Leon Stanislav, 2022; (District 7) Dr. Matthew Messina, 2021; (District 8) Dr. Cheryl Watson-Lowry, 2024; (District 9) Dr. David Clemens, 2024; (District 10) Dr. Emily Willett, 2021; (District 11) Dr. John Hisel, 2022; (District 12) Dr. Matthew Cohlma, 2022; (District 13) Dr. John Blake, 2023; (District 14) Dr. David White, chair, 2021; (District 15) Dr. Matthew Roberts, 2023; (District 16) Dr. Mark Crabtree, 2023; (District 17) Dr. Dan Gesek, 2024; (New Dentist Member) Dr. Steve Feldman, 2021.

Liaisons: Dr. Jay Harrington, Board of Trustees (District 5); Mr. Sebastian Celis Cifuentes, American Student Dental Association; Dr. Steve Ortego, chair, American Dental Political Action Committee; Dr. Jessica Meeske, chair, Council on Advocacy for Access and Prevention; Ms. Sue Hadnot, Alliance of the American Dental Association.

Council Staff: Mr. Michael Graham, senior vice president, Government and Public Affairs; Ms. Roxanne Yaghoubi, director, Legislative and Regulatory Policy; Mr. Robert Burns, manager, Legislative and Regulatory Policy; Mr. David Linn, manager, Legislative and Regulatory Policy; Mr. Christian Miller, senior project assistant.

Other ADA Representatives Present for All or Part of the Meeting: Dr. Kathleen O'Loughlin, executive director, ADA; Dr. Daniel Klemmedson, president, ADA; Dr. Cesar Sabates, president-elect, ADA; Mr. Christopher Tampio, director, Congressional Affairs; Ms. Jennifer Fisher, lobbyist, Congressional Affairs; Ms. Megan Mortimer, lobbyist, Congressional Affairs; Ms. Natalie Hales, lobbyist, Congressional Affairs; Ms. Sarah Milligan, director, American Dental Political Action Committee; Mr. Peter Aiello, senior manager, American Dental Political Action Committee and Political Affairs; Ms. Sarah Krejci, senior project assistant, American Dental Political Action Committee; Ms. Jennifer Garvin, Washington editor, Publications; Ms. Katherine Merullo, manager, Public Affairs and Advocacy Communications; Dr. Jane Grover, director, Council on Advocacy for Access and Prevention; Ms. Tooka Zokaie, manager, Fluoridation and Preventive Health Activities; Ms. Kelly Cantor, manager, Community- Based Programs; Ms. Elaine Barone, coordinator, Council on Advocacy for Access and Prevention; Mr. C. Michael Kendall, senior associate general counsel, Legal Affairs; Mr. Chad Olson, director, State Government Affairs; Mr. Paul O'Connor, senior legislative liaison, State Government Affairs; Dr. David Preble, senior vice president, Practice Institute; Dr. Krishna Aravamudhan, senior director, Center for Dental Benefits, Coding, and Quality; Dr. Elizabeth "Betsy" Shapiro, senior director, Center for Dental Practice Policy; Dr. Marko Vujicic, chief economist and vice president, Health Policy Institute; Dr. Chelsea Fosse, senior health policy analyst, Health Policy Institute; Ms. Kathy Clary, manager, Business Administrative Services; Ms. Mifrah Baqai, intern.

Federal Dental Services Representatives: Rear Admiral Timothy Ricks, USPHS; Captain Renée Joskow, USPHS; Colonel Stephen Tanner, USA; Colonel Peter Guevara, USA; Rear Admiral Rick Freedman, USN; Captain Rebecca Lee, USN; Captain Steven Blaustein, USN; Brigadier General Sharon Bannister, USAF; Colonel Ender Ozgul, USAF; Lieutenant Colonel Douglas Grabowski, USAF; Dr. Scott Trapp, VA; Dr. Peter Gerngross, VA; Colonel Christensen Hsu, DoD Health Affairs; Colonel Jay Graver, DoD Health Affairs.

Guest Speaker on the Biden Administration: Mr. Bob Hickmott, senior vice president, The Smith-Free Group.

Chairs of Other Councils: Dr. Randall Markarian, Council on Dental Benefit Programs; Dr. Ana Bedran-Russo, Council on Scientific Affairs; Dr. Duc “Duke” Ho, Council on Dental Practice; Dr. Sam Mansour, Council on Communications; Dr. Jeff Kahl, Council on Membership.

Friday, January 29, 2021

The meeting was called to order by Dr. White at 9:39 AM CDT.

Adoption of Agenda: Upon vote, the Council adopted the agenda.

- **Resolved**, the agenda is adopted.

Approval of Consent Calendar: Upon vote, the Council approved the consent calendar.

- **Resolved**, the consent calendar is approved.

Legal Policies: Mr. Kendall spoke to the Council about the ADA’s confidentiality, copyright assignment, and conflict of interest policies.

Welcome and Report of the chair: Dr. White talked about plans for future meetings of the Council. He also discussed the elections for Council chair and vice chair.

Report of the Board of Trustees: Dr. Harrington said that, despite the pandemic, the ADA has accomplished most of its operating plan. Top goals for 2021 include increasing membership and gaining financial stability. He also discussed Dr. Klemmedson’s plans for the Board.

Report of the Council on Advocacy for Access and Prevention: Dr. Meeske spoke about the priorities of the Council on Advocacy for Access and Prevention (CAAP), including Medicaid, health equity, water fluoridation, safety, and health literacy. She also highlighted ways CGA can collaborate with CAAP on these issues.

Report of the State Public Affairs Oversight Workgroup: Mr. Olson updated the Council on the State Public Affairs (SPA) grant program. Mr. Olson also discussed how some states had to shift their strategies due to COVID-19.

Discussion on State Government Affairs: Mr. Olson and Mr. O’Connor spoke about state legislation on topics such as workforce, Medicaid, and vaccination. They also discussed message testing on dental insurance reform, as well as the National Conference of Insurance Legislators (NCOIL) model legislation on third party payers. Council members asked about legislation in their states.

Report of the American Student Dental Association: Mr. Celis Cifuentes spoke about the work of the American Student Dental Association (ASDA), including its Week of Service and meetings. Council members asked Mr. Celis Cifuentes about how the pandemic has affected dental students, as well as how to engage dental students in advocacy.

Report of the New Dentist Committee: Dr. Feldman talked about using advocacy to draw new members into the ADA. He spoke about the concerns of new dentists, including debt and mental health. Additionally, he discussed employment issues and the labor market for new dentists.

Discussion Led by the Health Policy Institute: Dr. Vujcic and Dr. Fosse spoke about the polling done by the Health Policy Institute (HPI) since the onset of the pandemic. They presented data on their core measures and Questions of the Week. Additionally, HPI presented on its consumer polling and Council members discussed staffing in dental offices.

Discussion Led by ADA executive director: Dr. O'Loughlin spoke about how COVID-19 affected the ADA's membership numbers and financials. Additionally, she discussed the ADA's core values, especially diversity and inclusion. She went over the ADA's strategic plan, including the public goal. Dr. O'Loughlin also emphasized that the ADA's business continuity plan ensured that the organization's work was able to continue during the pandemic, and that such plans should be part of preparing for future pandemics.

Report of the American Dental Political Action Committee: Dr. Ortego discussed the American Dental Political Action Committee's (ADPAC) four main functions, including raising money, distributing contributions, grassroots advocacy, and political education.

The Council discussed the incident at the Capitol on January 6 and how it could affect the ADA's lobbying and political giving. Dr. Klemmedson spoke about the Board's discussions regarding January 6. The following resolution was proposed by the Council:

- **Resolved**, CGA to come up with an internal position in terms of lobbying on the current situation concerning our member dentists in Congress and the climate in Washington following January 6th.

Upon vote, the Council agreed to add the following second resolved clause to the resolution:

- **Be it further resolved**, that two members of CGA participate in the ADPAC review process.

The first resolved clause was withdrawn.

A motion was made to remove the second resolved clause. Upon vote, the Council agreed to remove the second resolved clause.

Upon vote, the Council agreed to work with staff to come up with a motion or recommendation to be discussed by the Council by the end of the day tomorrow.

Update on 2020 Elections and Lobby Day: Ms. Milligan and Mr. Aiello spoke about ADPAC's fundraising during the 2020 elections and the outcome of those elections. They also discussed the ADA's grassroots advocacy during 2020. They said that Lobby Day 2021 will be virtual.

Update and Discussion on Congress: Mr. Tampio, Ms. Fisher, Ms. Hales, and Ms. Mortimer spoke about the issues they are lobbying Congress on on behalf of the ADA. Mr. Tampio also discussed next steps for McCarran-Ferguson now that the Competitive Health Insurance Reform Act is law.

Discussion on COVID-19 and Future Pandemics: Rear Admiral Ricks gave a presentation on the US Public Health Service's response to COVID-19. He discussed the COVID-19 vaccines, including dentists administering the vaccines and receiving the vaccines. Additionally, he spoke about other issues of interest to the ADA, including Healthy People 2030 and the Surgeon General reports on oral health and smoking cessation.

Remarks by ADA president: Dr. Klemmedson had no further remarks to make, and there were no questions for him from the Council. ADPAC agreed to add two members of CGA, Dr. John Reitz and Dr. Matt Roberts, to its Workgroup.

Federal Dental Services: Council members discussed dental workforce recruitment and retention issues with the Federal Dental Services.

Colonel Tanner from the Army spoke about changes to the Army Dental Corps, including COVID-19 and the electronic health record. He also discussed the mission of making sure that the Army is ready to deploy. Additionally, he talked about opportunities for members of the Army to participate in a dental residency program.

Rear Admiral Freedman from the Navy spoke about the 4Ps: People, Platforms, Performance, and Power. He also discussed the Navy's response to COVID-19, and thanked the ADA for its support of the Military Spouse Licensing Relief Act.

Brigadier General Bannister spoke about the Air Force Dental Service's mission and how it has been impacted by COVID-19. She discussed recruitment and the training opportunities open to Air Force dentists, as well as the reasons that they stay in or leave the military.

Dr. Trapp talked about the impact of COVID-19 on VA dentistry. He also discussed VA projects, including digital dentistry, medication awareness and stewardship, and dental care for homeless veterans. CGA members asked Dr. Trapp about the VA Innovation Center pilot program and the Community Care Program, as well as eligibility for VA dental care and comprehensive dental care for service connected dental issues or oral trauma.

Colonel Hsu spoke about the Defense Health Agency, including its active duty dental care, family member dental care, adjunctive dental care, and supplemental health care programs. She also discussed the dental contractor's response to COVID-19.

Update on Public Affairs: Ms. Merullo spoke about the Oral Health is Health social media campaign. She also discussed earned media coverage for the ADA. She encouraged CGA members to sign up for the ADA's volunteer engagement program on social media.

Ms. Garvin spoke about stories in ADA News on government affairs.

Update on Action for Dental Health: Dr. Grover discussed how dentists can help to overcome vaccine hesitancy. She also talked about the Action for Dental Health Act law, which gives the opportunity for grant funding to be used for initiatives such as Medicaid, Emergency Department (ED) referral, Community Water Fluoridation, nursing home programs, and Community Dental

Health Coordinators (CDHCs). Dr. Grover spoke on CAAP's Action for Dental Health goals for 2021. Additionally, she presented on the health equity policy being proposed by CAAP.

Saturday, January 30, 2021

Remarks by Other Council chairs: Dr. Markarian from the Council on Dental Benefit Programs (CDBP) gave an overview of the Council's work, including a Request for Proposals (RFP) on eligibility verification in real time, code maintenance, Bento and in-office dental plans, the clinical data registry, elder care, and the Affordable Care Act.

Dr. Ortego from ADPAC said that he is excited to have CGA members on the ADPAC Workgroup on January 6, but that is not going to distract ADPAC from its main job which is to raise money and maintain relationships in DC.

Dr. Mansour from the Council on Communications (CC) said that the Council has undergone a transformation in the last three years. It has five Workgroups, including 1) Integrated Marketing, 2) Communications, 3) Digital Marketing Experience, 4) Strategic Communications Research, and the 5) Volunteer Engagement Program.

Dr. Kahl from the Council on Membership (CM) said that the Council knew that, even prior to COVID-19, 2020 was going to be a challenging year for membership recruitment. But by the end of the 2020, the ADA was able to stabilize membership. Advocacy is something that has been highlighted to ADA members and CGA should count on CM to market those achievements. He also discussed CM's work on Dental Support Organizations (DSOs), diversity and inclusion, and the membership engagement grant program.

Dr. Bedran-Russo from the Council on Scientific Affairs (CSA) gave an overview of the Council's work, including caries research, acute dental pain, dental radiographic guidelines, and elder care. She also discussed the ADA Seal Program.

Dr. Ho from the Council on Dental Practice (CDP) said that CDP is working on a policy on artificial/augmented intelligence. He also discussed the development of a protocol on screening for pediatric airway and sleep apnea issues, and said that the Council is reviewing all aspects of the National Elder Care Advisory Committee. The Council is also overseeing the ADA's COVID-19 response team.

Report of the Alliance of the American Dental Association: Ms. Hadnot said that the Alliance focuses on oral health outreach to the community, legislative advocacy, and the well-being of the dental profession. She also discussed the wellness resources the Alliance has provided to dentists and their families during COVID-19.

Presentation and Discussion on the Biden Administration: Mr. Hickmott spoke about the Biden administration's Cabinet nominees and the President's proposals on COVID-19 and other health care issues. He also discussed the results of the 2020 Congressional elections. Additionally, he briefed the Council on the Congressional Committee leadership and their priorities. Council members asked Mr. Hickmott how the ADA should lobby the new administration and Congress.

Report of the senior vice president and director: Mr. Graham and Ms. Yaghoubi spoke about the lobbying accomplishments of the ADA during 2020, including on issues such as COVID-19 and McCarran-Ferguson reform. Mr. Graham highlighted the 700,000 grassroots

emails sent by ADA members to Capitol Hill, and the positive impact those messages had on ADA advocacy. Additionally, Mr. Graham answered questions about Congressional proposals on elder dental care.

Military Workgroup: Dr. Miller presented to the Council on the Workgroup's activities, including developing a charge statement on supporting the VA Innovation Center pilot program and assembling a toolkit for reserve/guard dentists who are preparing to deploy. Captain Steven Blaustein from the Navy and Colonel Stephen Tanner from the Army joined the conversation about the reserve/guard.

Discussion on Higher Education Issues: Mr. Burns and Ms. Mortimer spoke about President Biden's proposals on student loans and discussed Congressional legislation on student loan reform. Additionally, they presented on the work of the ADA Task Force to Study Alternate Student Loan Repayment Strategies.

Diversity Workgroup: Dr. Willett presented on the Workgroup's activities, including its charge statement. Dr. Meeske spoke about CAAP's health equity policy and Dr. Willett and Dr. Meeske agreed to have CAAP and CGA work together on this issue. CGA discussed the difference between equity and equality, and how CGA can best help to promote oral health equity. The Council also talked about how the Workgroup should prioritize its work on diversity issues, with the goal of increasing funding for at least one oral health program and achieving at least one regulatory change beneficial to diversity in dentistry.

Policy Review Workgroup: Drs. Cohlma, Feldman, and Roberts, and Mr. Celis Cifuentes (ASDA liaison) presented recommended recommendations to retain, rescind, or amend thirteen ADA policies, in accordance with the policy titled Regular Comprehensive Policy Review (*Trans.*2010:603; 2012:370). Upon vote, all thirteen recommendations were adopted. See addendum for more information.

In-Office Dental Plans Workgroup: Dr. Messina spoke about the activities of the Workgroup, including a survey of state laws on this topic conducted by Mr. O'Connor. Dr. Markarian discussed CDBP's work on in-office dental plans, including a toolkit for office managers on setting up these plans. CGA members asked about encouraging state dental associations to advocate for laws on in-office dental plans.

Medicaid Workgroup: The Workgroup said that it wants to look at issues such as value-based payments, administrative burdens, block grants, rate increases, adult Medicaid benefits, federal funding for state Medicaid programs, and the interaction between Medicaid and Medicare. The Workgroup also discussed its collaboration with CAAP.

Discussion on Council Priorities: The Council discussed the results of the September 2020 priorities survey. Council members spoke about whether the priorities have – or should – change. Ms. Yaghoubi spoke about the difference between what the Council decides to prioritize (for its Workgroups, meetings, and other initiatives) and what the ADA lobbies on with the federal government. The Council agreed that, after discussing the issues, another survey is not needed at this time.

New and/or Unfinished Business and Open Forum: Dr. Willett spoke about the revised Council orientation process, and solicited feedback from the Council. The Council spoke positively of the virtual orientation.

Dr. Reitz said he was not bringing up a motion since ADPAC has agreed to add Dr. Reitz and Dr. Roberts to its Workgroup.

The Council on Government Affairs meeting adjourned at 3:37 PM CDT on January 30, 2021.

Council on Government Affairs Unofficial Report of Major Actions January 29-30, 2021

The Council on Government Affairs (CGA) met virtually on January 29-30, 2021. The following is a summary of major actions taken by the Council:

1. The Council discussed the incident at the Capitol on January 6. A motion was proposed and withdrawn. The American Dental Political Action Committee (ADPAC) agreed to appoint two members of CGA (Dr. John Reitz and Dr. Matthew Roberts) to the ADPAC workgroup.
2. The Council received an update from the Congressional lobbyists on McCarran-Ferguson reform now that the Competitive Health Insurance Reform Act has been signed into law.
3. The Council heard presentations from the following representatives of the Federal Dental Services: Rear Admiral Timothy Ricks, USPHS; Captain Renée Juskow, USPHS; Colonel Stephen Tanner, USA; Colonel Peter Guevara, USA; Rear Admiral Rick Freedman, USN; Captain Rebecca Lee, USN; Brigadier General Sharon Bannister, USAF; Colonel Ender Ozgul, USAF; Lieutenant Colonel Douglas Grabowski, USAF; Dr. Scott Trapp, VA; Dr. Peter Gerngross, VA; Colonel Christensen Hsu, DoD Health Affairs; and Colonel Jay Graver, DoD Health Affairs.
4. The Council listened to remarks from the following chairs of other ADA Councils: Dr. Randall Markarian, Council on Dental Benefit Programs; Dr. Ana Bedran-Russo, Council on Scientific Affairs; Dr. Duc "Duke" Ho, Council on Dental Practice; Dr. Jessica Meeske, Council on Advocacy for Access and Prevention; Dr. Stephen Ortego, American Dental Political Action Committee; Dr. Sam Mansour, Council on Communications; Dr. Jeff Kahl, Council on Membership.
5. The Council heard a presentation on the Biden administration from Mr. Bob Hickmott, senior vice president, The Smith-Free Group.
6. The Council received an update from the Military workgroup, including on issues such as the VA Innovation Center (VIC) pilot program and reservists. Captain Steven Blaustein from the Navy and Colonel Stephen Tanner from the Army joined the reservist discussion.
7. The Council had a discussion on higher education issues and received an update on the ADA Task Force to Study Innovations for Alternate Student Loan Repayment Strategies.
8. The Council heard an update from the Diversity workgroup and had a discussion.
9. The Council adopted motions to retain, rescind, or amend thirteen Association policies, in accordance with the policy titled Regular Comprehensive Policy Review (Trans.2010:603; 2012:370), and to seek feedback from several secondary Councils before sending any formal resolutions or reports to the 2021 House of Delegates.

10. The Council heard an update from the In-Office Dental Plans workgroup, including state laws on these plans.
11. The Council received an update from the Medicaid workgroup.
12. The Council spoke about the results of its 2020 priorities survey, as well as the priorities for the coming year.
13. The Council discussed the orientation program.

CGA Members:

Dr. David White, chair, NV
Dr. Mark Vitale, vice chair, NJ
Dr. Abe Abdul, MA
Dr. John Blake, CA
Dr. David Clemens, WI
Dr. Matthew Cohlma, OK
Dr. Mark Crabtree, VA
Dr. Steven Feldman, DC
Dr. Daniel Gesek, FL
Dr. Greg Goggans, GA
Dr. John Hisel, ID
Dr. Matthew Messina, OH
Dr. Raymond Miller, NY
Dr. John Reitz, PA
Dr. Matthew Roberts, TX
Dr. Leon Stanislav, TN
Dr. Cheryl Watson-Lowry, IL
Dr. Emily Willett, NE

Liaisons:

Mr. Sebastian Celis Cifuentes, American Student Dental Association, NY
Ms. Susan Hadnot, Alliance of the American Dental Association, MT
Dr. Jay Harrington, Trustee-Liaison, Fifth Trustee District, GA
Dr. Jessica Meeske, chair, Council on Advocacy for Access and Prevention, NE
Dr. Stephen Ortego, chair, American Dental Political Action Committee, LA

The Council will meet on August 21-22, 2021.

**MEETING MINUTES OF THE
AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION
COUNCIL ON GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS
ADA OFFICE, CHICAGO, IL
AUGUST 21-22, 2021**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Council on Government Affairs (CGA) was called to order by Dr. White, CGA chair, at 8:33 AM CDT on August 21, 2021.

ROLL CALL

Members: (District 1) Dr. Abe Abdul, 2024; (District 2) Dr. Raymond Miller, 2023; (District 3) Dr. John Reitz, 2021; (District 4) Dr. Mark Vitale, 2022; (District 5) Dr. Leigh Kent, 2024; (District 6) Dr. Leon Stanislav, 2022; (District 7) Dr. Matthew Messina, 2021; (District 8) Dr. Cheryl Watson-Lowry, 2024; (District 9) Dr. David Clemens, 2024; (District 10) Dr. Emily Willett, 2021; (District 11) Dr. John Hisel, 2022; (District 12) Dr. Matthew Cohlma, 2022; (District 13) Dr. John Blake, 2023; (District 14) Dr. David White, chair, 2021; (District 15) Dr. Matthew Roberts, 2023; (District 16) Dr. Mark Crabtree, 2023; (District 17) Dr. Dan Gesek, 2024; (New Dentist Member) Dr. Steve Feldman, 2021.

Liaisons: Dr. Jay Harrington, Board of Trustees (District 5); Mr. Sebastian Celis Cifuentes, American Student Dental Association; Dr. Steve Ortego, chair, American Dental Political Action Committee; Dr. Jessica Meeske, chair, Council on Advocacy for Access and Prevention; Ms. Sue Hadnot, Alliance of the American Dental Association.

Council Staff: Mr. Michael Graham, senior vice president, Government and Public Affairs; Ms. Roxanne Yaghoubi, director, Legislative and Regulatory Policy; Mr. Robert J. Burns, manager, Legislative and Regulatory Policy; Mr. David Linn, manager, Legislative and Regulatory Policy; Mr. Corey McGee, manager, Legislative and Regulatory Policy; Ms. MT Fogarty, senior project assistant.

Other ADA Representatives Present for All or Part of the Meeting: Dr. Kathleen O'Loughlin, executive director, ADA; Dr. Daniel Klemmedson, president, ADA; Mr. Chris Tampio, director, Congressional Affairs; Ms. Jennifer Fisher, lobbyist, Congressional Affairs; Ms. Megan Mortimer, lobbyist, Congressional Affairs; Ms. Natalie Hales, lobbyist, Congressional Affairs; Ms. Sarah Milligan, director, American Dental Political Action Committee; Ms. Katherine Merullo, manager, Public Affairs and Advocacy Communications; Dr. Jane Grover, director, Council on Advocacy for Access and Prevention; Ms. Tooka Zokaie, manager, Fluoridation and Preventive Health Activities; Ms. Kelly Cantor, manager, Community Based Programs; Ms. Elaine Barone, manager, Administrative Services, Council on Advocacy for Access and Prevention; Mr. Michael Kendall, senior associate general counsel, Legal Affairs; Mr. Chad Olson, director, State Government Affairs; Mr. Paul O'Connor, senior legislative liaison, State Government Affairs; Mr. Matt Rossetto, legislative liaison, State Government Affairs; Dr. Krishna Aravamudhan, senior director, Center for Dental Benefits, Coding, and Quality; Dr. Chelsea Fosse, senior health policy analyst, Health Policy Institute; Mr. Thomas Elliott, director, Council on Ethics, Bylaws and Judicial Affairs.

Chairs and Vice Chairs of Councils and Committees: Dr. Randall Markarian, Council on Dental Benefit Programs; Dr. Duc "Duke" Ho, Council on Dental Practice; Dr. Sam Mansour,

Council on Communications; Dr. Jeff Kahl, Council on Membership and Marketing Research; Dr. Meredith Bailey, Council on Ethics, Bylaws and Judicial Affairs; Dr. Jacqueline Plemons, Council on Dental Education and Licensure; Dr. Daniel Hall, New Dentist Committee; Dr. Shailee Gupta, Council on Advocacy for Access and Prevention.

Other Guests: Dr. Rosa Chaviano-Moran, president, Hispanic Dental Association; Dr. Pamela Alston, president, National Dental Association; Dr. Cristin Haase, vice president, Society of American Indian Dentists; Dr. Douglas Erickson, incoming member, CGA; Dr. John Roberts, incoming member, CGA.

August 21, 2021

The meeting was called to order by Dr. White at 8:33 AM CDT.

Adoption of Agenda: Upon vote, the Council approved the agenda.

- **Resolved**, the agenda is adopted.

Approval of Consent Calendar: Upon vote, the Council approved the consent calendar.

- **Resolved**, the agenda is adopted.

Legal Policy: Mr. Kendall spoke about the ADA's conflict of interest policy and asked the Council members to disclose any potential conflicts.

Welcome and Report of the Chair: Dr. White welcomed the Council to the meeting and thanked the members for the opportunity to serve as chair.

2021-2022 Chair and Vice Chair Candidate Forum and Elections: The candidates gave brief remarks. Dr. Vitale was elected chair and Dr. Gesek was elected vice chair.

Report of the Board of Trustees: Dr. Harrington gave an update on the priorities of the Board, including the digital transformation project, membership and financial sustainability, the transition to the new executive director, science and research, advocacy, and new association management software. The Board passed a resolution on giving the New Dentist Committee a vote on the Board, as well as a resolution that said that the ADA's participation in the political process should reflect its values, ideals, and priorities.

Report of the Council on Advocacy for Access and Prevention: Dr. Meeske spoke about the priorities of the Council on Advocacy for Access and Prevention (CAAP), including its resolutions on health equity, Medicaid, and the culture of safety in dentistry.

Report of the State Public Affairs Oversight Workgroup: Mr. Olson, Mr. O'Connor, and Mr. Rossetto talked about the State Public Affairs (SPA) program's activities on dental insurance reform and workforce. They discussed SPA's work with the Consumer Choice Center and the state Attorney Generals. They also highlighted the success of the SPA program in passing state laws.

Remarks by ADA President: Dr. Klemmedson spoke about the workforce shortage in dentistry and vaccine mandates. He emphasized the importance of diversity and inclusion and

encouraging new and diverse dentists to become involved in the ADA. He also talked about political advocacy and the American Dental Political Action Committee (ADPAC).

Report of the American Student Dental Association: Mr. Celis Cifuentes discussed the initiatives of the American Student Dental Association (ASDA), including educating students on applying for residency and buying a practice. He also talked about ASDA's work on diversity and inclusion, advocacy, and wellness.

Report of the New Dentist Committee: Dr. Feldman talked about the activities of the New Dentist Committee (NDC) on issues such as finding a job and managing finances, diversity and inclusion, and burnout. He also spoke about the NDC's appreciation of CGA's work on student loan reform. Lastly, he discussed the NDC's plans for SmileCon and the House of Delegates, including a resolution on bringing new dentists into the leadership of the tripartite.

Discussion Led by the Health Policy Institute: Dr. Fosse shared data from the Health Policy Institute (HPI) on dentistry's COVID-19 economic recovery, including staff recruitment and patient volume. She also discussed oral health equity and the diversity of the dental workforce. Looking to the future, she said the four big trends for dentistry will be intensified consumerism, shifting demographics, enabling technology, and payment reform.

Discussion Led by the ADA Executive Director: Dr. O'Loughlin spoke about the ADA's recovery from COVID-19, including its membership and revenue numbers. The Council discussed how best to reach out to new and diverse dentists, as well as dentists who work for a dental service organization (DSO). Dr. O'Loughlin said that the ADA is doing well financially. Additionally, she gave an update on the Common Ground 2025 strategic plan.

Report of the American Dental Political Action Committee: Dr. Ortego gave an update on the four main functions of ADPAC, including raising money, distributing money, grassroots advocacy, and political education. He also spoke about the changes being made at ADPAC as a result of January 6. Lastly, he talked about ADPAC's upcoming events, including SmileCon, Campaign School, and the 2022 lobby day.

Update on Action for Dental Health: Dr. Grover spoke about Action for Dental Health initiatives, including Community Dental Health Coordinators (CDHCs) and Emergency Department (ED) referral. Dr. Stanislav and Ms. Zokaie talked about community water fluoridation and the activities of the National Fluoridation Advisory Committee (NFAC).

Update and Discussion on Congress: Mr. Tampio told the Council that the staff continues to lobby on Capitol Hill on issues such as appropriations, insurance reform, McCarran Ferguson, student loan debt, Medicaid, and health equity. Mr. Graham spoke about, and answered questions on, the Medicare dental benefit proposal being considered in Congress and the ADA's lobbying work on an alternative Medicare dental proposal based on ADA policy.

Report of the Alliance of the American Dental Association: Ms. Hadnot informed the Council on the work of the Alliance, including its legislative advocacy, oral health education activities, Well-Being Committee, SmileCon events, and 2021 conference in Tucson, Arizona.

Update on Public Affairs: Ms. Merullo spoke about media coverage on the ADA and dentistry, including on issues such as COVID-19, Medicare, Medicaid, the Ensuring Lasting Smiles Act, and ADPAC contributions to Congressman Gosar. She also talked about the Oral Health is Health digital campaign ads. Plans for public affairs in 2021 include moving away from COVID-

19 and towards topics like dental insurance reform and health equity. Lastly, Ms. Merullo shared ADA News multimedia features on technology and COVID-19.

Discussion on CGA Orientation: Dr. Willett discussed the improvements the Workgroup is recommending the Council make to the orientation process. Many of these suggestions are based on the responses the Workgroup got from the Council survey. Upon vote, the Council approved the new orientation process.

- **Resolved**, the new orientation process is approved.

Discussion on COVID-19 and Future Pandemics: The Council talked about lessons learned from COVID-19, including the need for frequent updates from the ADA and ensuring an adequate supply of affordable personal protective equipment (PPE).

Discussion on Annual Session: Dr. Vitale spoke about plans for annual session, including hosting social events and having CGA members speak in support of the Council's resolutions.

August 22, 2021

The meeting was called to order by Dr. White at 8:34 AM CDT.

Remarks by Council and Committee Chairs:

- Dr. Markarian spoke about the Council on Dental Benefit Programs' activities, including the clinical data registry and Bento.
- Dr. Ho talked about the Council on Dental Practice's work, including on issues such as artificial/augmented intelligence, sleep apnea, and the National Elder Care Advisory Committee (NECAC).
- Dr. Plemons discussed the resolutions the Council on Dental Education and Licensure is bringing to the House of Delegates, and also talked about the Council's work on licensure portability, the Dental Licensure Objective Structured Clinical Examination (DLOSCE), and guidelines on pediatric pain control and sedation.
- Dr. Bailey talked about the Council on Ethics, Bylaws and Judicial Affairs' work on biases in dental practice, the ethics of vaccination, and teledentistry.
- Dr. Hall discussed the work of the New Dentist Committee on providing financial resources to new dentists. He also spoke about the resolution on the New Dentist Committee having a vote on the Board, as well as the resolution on diversity and inclusion.
- Dr. Mansour spoke about the Council on Communications' trend report, as well as the Oral Health is Health campaign and the launch of the new ADA website. Additionally, he discussed the staff shortage in dental offices.
- Dr. Kahl talked about the Council on Membership and Marketing Research, including the current membership numbers and the dropoff in new members since the pandemic. He also told CGA about the pilot program on large group practices and the resolution on diversity and inclusion.

Policy Review Workgroup: Dr. Cohlma discussed the Board's concerns about Resolution 29. Upon vote, the Council agreed to rescind Resolution 29.

- **Resolved**, Resolution 29 is rescinded.

Upon vote, the Council then approved the revised version of Resolution 29, which rescinded the resolution.

- **Resolved**, the revised Resolution 29 is approved.

Military Workgroup: Dr. Miller spoke about the work of the Military Workgroup, including the VA Dental Pilot Program, a toolkit to assist dentists who are Reserve/Guard members, and the Give Veterans a Smile summit hosted by the ADA. He also discussed legislation the ADA is supporting on military and veterans' issues. CGA members talked about the connections they have to dental schools the VA could work with to expand the Pilot Program.

Diversity Workgroup: Dr. Willett introduced the representatives from the Diverse Dental Society, Dr. Chaviano-Moran from the Hispanic Dental Association (HDA), Dr. Haase from the Society of American Indian Dentists (SAID), and Dr. Alston from the National Dental Association (NDA). The guests spoke about their organizations and answered the questions CGA had posed to them: 1) What are you currently working on, 2) What are your plans for the future, 3) How can the ADA help? CGA discussed with the guests how the ADA can collaborate with the Diverse Dental Society on advocacy.

In-Office Dental Plans Workgroup: Dr. Messina discussed the HPI survey of dentists on in-office dental plans, as well as state laws on the issue.

Medicaid Workgroup: Dr. Blake talked about the history of Medicaid. The Council discussed state laws on Medicaid reimbursement and adult dental coverage, and ADA advocacy on these issues.

Discussion on Council Priorities: Dr. Vitale announced the dates for next year's CGA meetings: January 21-23 and July 21-23. The Council talked about its priorities and which Workgroups the Council should have next year. The topics discussed include Medicaid, Medicare, COVID-19, dental education and student debt, third-party payers, McCarran Ferguson, in-office dental plans, health equity, diversity and inclusion, licensure, and labor and workforce.

The Council on Government Affairs meeting adjourned at 1:40 PM CDT on August 22, 2021.

**Council on Government Affairs
Unofficial Report of Major Actions
August 21-22, 2021**

The Council on Government Affairs (CGA) met on August 21-22, 2021 in the ADA's Chicago office. The following is a summary of the major actions taken by the Council:

1. The Council elected its 2021-2022 chair and vice chair. Dr. Mark Vitale will be chair and Dr. Dan Gesek will be vice chair.
2. The Council voted to approve the orientation workgroup's plan and timeline for orienting new Council members.
3. After discussing Board concerns about Resolution 29-2021, the Council voted to send a revised version of Resolution 29-2021 to the House of Delegates. The revised version calls for the policy titled Adding the ADA Definition of Dentistry to Existing Dental Regulatory Provisions (*Trans.2001:440*) to be rescinded instead of amended.
4. The Council talked with the leaders of the Diverse Dental Society (DDS), Dr. Rosa Chaviano-Moran, Dr. Pamela Alston, and Dr. Cristin Haase, about how the ADA and DDS can collaborate on areas of mutual interest, including Medicare, Medicaid, student debt, and health equity.
5. The Council discussed the VETSmile pilot program and Council members said if they had connections to Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) and dental schools that the VA could work with to expand the program.
6. The Council discussed its priorities and workgroups for next year.

CGA Members:

Dr. David White, chair, NV
Dr. Mark Vitale, vice chair, NJ
Dr. Abe Abdul, MA
Dr. John Blake, CA
Dr. David Clemens, WI
Dr. Matthew Cohlmiya, OK
Dr. Mark Crabtree, VA
Dr. Steven Feldman, DC
Dr. Dan Gesek, FL
Dr. John Hisel, ID
Dr. Leigh Kent, AL
Dr. Matthew Messina, OH
Dr. Raymond Miller, NY
Dr. John Reitz, PA
Dr. Matthew Roberts, TX
Dr. Leon Stanislav, TN
Dr. Cheryl Watson-Lowry, IL
Dr. Emily Willett, NE

Liaisons:

Mr. Sebastian Celis Cifuentes, American Student Dental Association, NY

Ms. Susan Hadnot, Alliance of the American Dental Association, MT
Dr. Jay Harrington, Trustee-Liaison, Fifth Trustee District, GA
Dr. Jessica Meeske, chair, Council on Advocacy for Access and Prevention, NE
Dr. Stephen Ortego, chair, American Dental Political Action Committee, LA

The Council will meet on January 20-22, 2022.