

**UNOFFICIAL REPORT OF MAJOR ACTIONS  
COUNCIL ON MEMBERSHIP  
June 16-17, 2023**

The Council on Membership met June 16-17, 2023 in Chicago. Below is a summary of major actions taken by the Council.

**Review and Discussion of Council Responsibilities**

Through conversations in small breakouts, groups identified roles and responsibilities of the Council. Responses were collected and discussed as a full Council, and a workgroup was established to continue discussion and development of the responsibilities and report back to the full Council.

**Subcommittee on Membership Policy and Trends**

Dr. Kerri Simpson, Chair of the Subcommittee on Membership Policy and Trends, led discussions and voting on the 22 policies up for review per House Resolution 170H-2012, Regular Comprehensive Policy Review.

The Council approved recommendations to the 2023 HOD that 17 ADA policies be maintained as written:

- Financial Hardship Dues Waivers (*Trans.*2002:381; 2018:300)
- Registration Fees for Members (*Trans.*1989:537)
- Involvement of Students in Society Activities (*Trans.*1979:649)
- Dues Exemption for Active-Duty Members (*Trans.*2004:297, 335; 2015:296)
- Parallel Membership Categories (*Trans.*2008:482; 2018:299)
- Administrative Process for Transferring Members (*Trans.*2001:422)
- Promoting the Value of Tripartite Dentistry (*Trans.*1995:606; 2013:365)
- Utilization of Tripartite Resources (*Trans.*1995:604; 2018:300)
- Collaboration with Other Organizations to Support ADA Recruitment and Retention Activities (*Trans.*1989:540; 1997:659; 2018:301)
- Dental Organization Membership Contingent on ADA Membership (*Trans.*1985:610; 1996:667)
- Dentists Retired From Federal Service (*Trans.*1963:285; 1996:671)
- Streamlining Membership Category Transfers (*Trans.*2001:426; 2018:300) [pending secondary review]
- Long-Term Dues Waivers (*Trans.*2002:384)
- Student Membership (*Trans.*1977:957; 1996:673; 2015:291)
- Tripartite Membership Application Procedures (*Trans.*1998:685; 2014:524; 2018:299)
- Transfer Nonrenews (*Trans.*1995:605; 2018:299)
- Requirement for Membership Maintenance in ADA for Fellows of the American College of Dentists, the USA Section of the International College of Dentists and the Pierre Fauchard Academy (*Trans.*1989:538; 2012:512)

The Council approved recommendations to the 2023 HOD that two ADA policies be revised:

- Application Process for Direct ADA Membership (*Trans.*1989:539)
- Nonmember Utilization of ADA Member Benefits (*Trans.*1990:532)

The Council approved recommendations to the 2023 HOD that three ADA policies be rescinded:

- Compliance With Civil Rights Laws (*Trans.*1997:666)
- Differential Charges According to Membership Status (*Trans.*1982:506; 2004:294; 2018:300)
- Diversity in Association Membership Marketing and Consumer-Related Materials (*Trans.*1995:606)

The Council approved recommendations to the Board of Trustees to integrate the Quarter Year Dues Pilot into ADA's promotional incentives, as well as the recommendations for the 2024 Active Member Promotion segments.

The Council also received an update from ADA's consulting group on DSO research, value propositions and membership models.

### **Subcommittee on Grants and Member Benefits**

Dr. Janis Moriarty, Chair of the Subcommittee on Grants and Member Benefits, led the discussion and vote on the proposed resolution to the Board of Trustees to investigate a recognition program for members' philanthropic efforts.

### **Faculty Joint Action Team**

Dr. Sword updated the Council on the Faculty Joint Action Team (JAT), which is comprised of two members from each of the following councils: Council on Membership, Council on Scientific Affairs (CSA), and Council on Dental Education and Licensure (CDEL). The JAT was created this year to identify ways the ADA can provide an easier pathway to ADA membership for dental school faculty who are foreign trained and non-U.S. licensed, as well as better value for all faculty, who are the #1 influencer of students. The Council reviewed and discussed a resolution proposed by the JAT to eliminate the barriers to membership and offer a dues discount to all full-time faculty. The resolution was approved and will be submitted to the 2023 HOD. Support for the resolution is also being sought from CSA and CDEL.

### **Leadership Development**

The Council participated in an interactive workshop with an outside consultant to enhance their presentation skills and executive presence ahead of this year's HOD.

### **Executive Session**

The Council was briefed on California's Board's decision to make ADA dues optional.

### **Cabinet/District Lightning Round**

Council members were asked to further engage their informal membership district cabinets, asking to provide input and insight on discussion topics. During a lightning round, Council members shared responses they received from the cabinets on the following questions/topics:

1. Early career/new graduate strategies that are being implemented within their districts
2. The most effective and ineffective ADA communications
3. Any district resolutions for this year's HOD

### **2023-2024 Chair and Vice Chair Elections**

The Council re-elected Dr. Nipa Thakkar (District 3) as chair and elected Dr. Ensy Atarod (District 15) as vice chair for the 2023-2024 term.

### **Council Members:**

Dr. Nipa Thakkar, chair, PA  
Dr. Aruna Rao, vice chair, MN  
Dr. Ensy Atarod, TX  
Dr. Wallace Bellamy, CA  
Dr. Renuka Bijoor, NY  
Dr. Keith Jones, AR  
Dr. Nate Kunzman, CO  
Dr. Janis Moriarty, MA  
Dr. Cate Nelson, MI  
Dr. Robin Nguyen, FL  
Dr. Meenal Patel, NC

Dr. Mehrdad Safavian, OH  
Dr. Susan Sergie, AK  
Dr. Kerri Simpson, WV  
Dr. Thomas Sniscak, NJ  
Dr. Rhoda Sword, GA  
Dr. Terri Tiersky, IL  
Dr. Giancarlo Ghisalberti, new dentist member, NJ

**Liaisons:**

Dr. Michele Tulak-Gorecki, ADA Board of Trustees, Ninth District  
Ms. Justina Anigbo, ASDA