REPORT OF THE REVIEW COMMITTEE ON DENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH EDUCATION TO THE COMMISSION ON DENTAL ACCREDITATION

Committee Chair: Dr. Steven Levy. Committee Members: Dr. Victor Badner, Dr. Linda Kaste, and Dr. James Leonard. Dr. Michael Wajdowicz was unable to attend the meeting. Guests (Open Session Only): Dr. Frances Kim, executive director, American Association of Public Health Dentistry and Dr. Ana Karina Mascarenhas, executive director, American Board of Dental Public Health attended the policy portion of the meeting. Staff Members: Ms. Peggy Soeldner, manager, Advanced Dental Education, Dr. Sherin Tooks, director, and Ms. Bridget Blackwood, senior project assistant, Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA). The meeting of the Review Committee on Dental Public Health Education (DPH RC) was held July 17, 2020 via a video conference meeting.

CONSIDERATION OF MATTERS RELATED TO DENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH EDUCATION

Informational Report of Frequency of Citings of Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education Programs in Dental Public Health (p. 600): The Review Committee on Dental Public Health Education (DPH RC) reviewed the summary report of the number of “must” statement citings and their distribution among the “must” statement in the current Advanced Dental Education Programs in Dental Public Health Accreditation Standards. The report presented the number of times areas of non-compliance were cited by visiting committees conducting site visits from August 2018 through October 2019. Since that date, five (5) dental public health site visits have been conducted. At the time of this report, no (0) areas of non-compliance were cited. The Commission will continue to receive reports annually summarizing the updated data on the frequency of citings of individual Standards.

Recommendation: This report is informational in nature and no action is required.

NEW BUSINESS

Proposed Revision to Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education Programs in Dental Public Health: At this meeting, the Dental Public Health Review Committee (DPH RC) revisited its informal discussion from the Winter 2020 meeting related to the use of “Should” in the Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education Programs in Dental Public Health. At that time, the DPH RC concluded that since the new definition of “Should” was very similar to the existing definition in the Accreditation Standards for dental public health no changes to the Accreditation Standards related to the “Should” statement was warranted, beyond updating the definition of “Should” within the Definition of Terms, as follows: Should: Indicates a method to achieve the standard; highly desirable, but not mandatory. The DPH RC proposed an update to the definition and the Commission adopted this revision.

Since that time, through further review of the use of “Should” in DPH-specific intent statements, the DPH RC determined that revision to the intent statement for Standard 4-1, specifically the
use of “should” is warranted. The DPH RC believes changing “Should” to “are expected to” strengthens the intent statement and further conveys to the educational programs the importance of the expected outcomes of the instruction. Therefore, the DPH RC recommends the intent statement of Standard 4-1 of the Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education Programs in Dental Public Health be revised, as noted below, with immediate implementation:

**INSTRUCTION IN ETHICS AND PROFESSIONALISM**

4-1 Graduates **must** receive instruction in and be able to apply the principles of ethical reasoning, ethical decision making and professional responsibility as they pertain to the academic environment, research, patient care, practice management, and programs to promote the oral health of individuals and communities.

**Intent:** Graduates **should** are expected to know how to draw on a range of resources such as professional codes, regulatory law, and ethical theories to guide judgment and action for issues that are complex, novel, ethically arguable, divisive, or of public concern. Graduates **should** are expected to respect the culture, diversity, beliefs and values in the community.

**Recommendation:** It is recommended that the Commission on Dental Accreditation adopt the proposed revision to the intent statement of Standard 4-1 of the Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education Programs in Dental Public Health, as noted above, with immediate implementation.

**CONSIDERATION OF MATTERS RELATING TO MORE THAN ONE REVIEW COMMITTEE**

Matters related to more than one review committee are included in a separate report.

**CONSIDERATION OF MATTERS RELATED TO ACCREDITATION STATUS**

Matters related to accreditation status of programs are included in a separate report.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Steven Levy
Chair, Review Committee on Dental Public Health Education