Call to Order: The Chair, Dr. Arthur Chen-Shu Jee, called a special meeting of the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) to order at 3:03 P.M. on Tuesday, October 13, 2020, by video conference, in closed session for the purpose of considering ongoing flexibility related to COVID-19 for the Class of 2021, and reviewing interruption of education reports for educational programs related to COVID-19 for the Class of 2020, by the Commission.

Roll Call: Dr. John Agar, Dr. Joel Berg, Dr. Linda Casser, Dr. Scott DeVito, Dr. Christopher Hasty, Dr. Kevin Haubrick, Dr. Monica Hebl, Dr. John Hellstein, Dr. Jeffery Hicks (vice chair), Dr. Amid Ismail, Dr. Adolphus Jackson, Dr. Bradford Johnson, Dr. Susan Kass, Dr. James Katancik, Dr. Brent Larson, Dr. Steven Levy, Dr. Sanjay Mallya, Mr. Charles McClemens, Dr. Carol Anne Murdoch-Kinch, Dr. William Nelson, Dr. Bruce Rotter, Dr. Timothy Schwartz, Dr. Marybeth Shaffer, Dr. Ambika Srivastava, Dr. Alan Stein, Ms. Deanna Stentiford, Dr. Marshall Titus, and Dr. Lawrence Wolinsky.

Dr. Barbara Krieg-Menning was not in attendance.

Commissioner Trainees: Dr. Victor Badner, Dr. Maxine Feinberg, Ms. Martha McCaslin, and Dr. Garry Myers. Dr. Willie Keith Beasley was not in attendance.

CODA Staff: Dr. Sherin Tooks, ex-officio, CODA director, and Mr. Gregg Marquardt, Ms. Michelle Smith, Ms. Jennifer Snow, and Ms. Peggy Soeldner, CODA managers, were in attendance. Ms. Cathryn Albrecht, senior associate general counsel, CODA was also in attendance.

Trustee Liaison: Dr. Roy Thompson, Sixth District Trustee, Board of Trustees Liaison to CODA, American Dental Association (ADA), was in attendance.

Adoption of the Agenda: The agenda of the meeting was adopted, with the addition of a general discussion on the varied recommendations proposed for the Class of 2021 temporary flexibility guidance based upon each Review Committee’s deliberation, which was to be considered by the Commission at this meeting.

Commissioner Fiduciary Duties and Conflict of Interest Obligations: Ms. Cathryn Albrecht, ADA/CODA Senior Associate General Counsel, reminded the Commission of its fiduciary responsibilities and the Conflict of Interest policy.
Policy Reminder of Confidentiality: Dr. Sherin Tooks, CODA Director, read the Commission’s Reminder of Confidentiality, noting the confidential nature of the Commission’s materials and deliberations related to the accreditation of programs.

Consideration of Reports of the Education Review Committees:

Consideration of Ongoing Flexibility in Accreditation Standards Related to Interruption of Education for All Commission Accredited Dental and Dental Related Education Programs Related to COVID-19 and the Graduating Class of 2021: The Commission on Dental Accreditation first discussed the variability in recommendations submitted by the Review Committees with regard to the approach by which CODA should evaluate interruption of education reports for the Class of 2021. The Commission discussed whether there should be a uniform process across CODA for addressing the Class of 2021 interruption of education reports resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. Following discussion, the Commission determined that there should be a uniform approach to require that all CODA-accredited programs submit a report on interruption of education for the Class of 2021, in March 2021, and that all reports be considered by the appropriate discipline’s Review Committee and the Commission in Spring 2021.

Commission Action: The Commission on Dental Accreditation directs that there be a uniform process by which the Commission will review and assess the ongoing impact of COVID-19 on dental and dental related education programs for the Class of 2021.

The Commission considered each Review Committee’s report related to the recommended temporary flexibility that should be approved by CODA for the Class of 2021, noting that it had determined a uniform approach must be taken to require a report from every CODA-accredited education program, which would be reviewed by the appropriate Review Committee and Commission in Spring 2021.

Following discussion of each Review Committee report, the Commission adopted the temporary flexibility guidance document for the Class of 2021 for each discipline under its purview. The Commission also considered the recommendations regarding oversight of Class of 2021 flexibility and, as applicable, amended the recommendations of the Review Committees to further direct that all Commission-accredited education programs submit a report on temporary flexibility needed for the Class of 2021 in March 2021, for review by the Commission in Spring 2021.

Commission Actions: The Commission on Dental Accreditation adopts and directs the circulation of the temporary flexibility guidance documents for each discipline under its purview, as noted below, to all Commission-accredited dental and dental related education programs, as a resource to address interruption of education reporting requirements resulting from COVID-19 for the Class of 2021.
The Commission on Dental Accreditation further directs that all Commission-accredited education programs submit a report on temporary flexibility needed for the Class of 2021 in March 2021, for review by the Commission in Spring 2021.

**Consideration of Matters Relating to Accreditation Actions:** The Commission reviewed interruption of education reports on predoctoral dental education programs, advanced dental education programs, and allied dental education programs related to interruption of education due to COVID-19 for the Class of 2020.

**Commission Action:** Accreditation status was granted to programs evaluated as a result of interruption of education reports resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic for the Class of 2020. Accreditation actions are summarized in the “Report on the Accreditation Status of Educational Programs.” (Appendix 20).

**Adjournment:** The Commission adjourned the closed session at 4:14 P.M.