

1 Report of the HDA Delegation to the ADA House of Delegates – 2017

2  
3 The American Dental Association held its 158<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting in Atlanta, Georgia. This  
4 world-class dental meeting was held in the Georgia’s World Congress Center (GWCC) and  
5 was presided over by Dr. Gary Roberts. For the second consecutive year, the New Dentist  
6 Conference was held in conjunction with the ADA Annual Meeting. The headquarters hotel  
7 was the Atlanta Marriott Marquis, where all District Caucus and Reference Committee  
8 meetings were held. The HOD itself was held in the GWCC.  
9

10 Total attendance neared 14,000, but less than expected due to recent hurricanes affecting the  
11 Southeast and entire Gulf Coast. Breakdown follows:  
12

13 Dentists: 4,744 + Dental Team: 2,206 + Student: 305 + Guest: 6,411 = 13,666 (total)  
14 Attendee: 9,658 + Exhibitors: 4,008 = 13,666 (total)  
15

16 The majority of Resolutions were passed on the Consent Calendar; however, there were a few  
17 that were pulled off the Consent Calendar that resulted in significant discussion at the  
18 reference committees and at the House. The 55-page Unofficial Report of Actions of the  
19 2017 HOD can be found on ADA Connect; however, some of the highlights will be reviewed  
20 in this report.  
21

22 Beginning with Reference Committee A on Budget, Business, Membership and  
23 Administrative Matters, we have good news. The 2018 budget was passed without much  
24 controversy and there will be no dues increase for 2018.  
25

26 Board Resolution 32 requesting a special assessment was replaced by Substitute Resolution  
27 32RC that urged the Trustees to utilize funds from reserves to fund House Initiative  
28 Resolution 67H-2016, Utilization of Dental Services for ADA Members.  
29

30 Resolution 52 would have given the BOT the power to approve the budget but it failed to  
31 pass. The HOD therefore retains the power to adopt the budget.  
32

33 Resolution 2 called for a study on an ADA Sponsored Members Association Health Plan. Due  
34 to recent changes in health care policy at the federal level, the HOD felt it would be a good  
35 time to revisit this issue.  
36

37 Resolution 49 changed the composition and number of members on the Council on Members  
38 Insurance and Retirement Programs, CMIRP. Although there was good testimony given to  
39 both sides of this issue, it was felt that given its oversight responsibilities, a smaller, skills  
40 based Council with member expertise necessary to evaluate the insurance landscape would  
41 better serve the ADA than district representation.  
42

43 Reference Committee B, Dental Benefits, Practice and Related Matters had four resolutions  
44 pulled from the consent calendar, but only one, Resolution 17, attracted much attention at the

45 Reference Committee hearing. The other three resolutions failed to pass. The Council on  
46 Dental Practice Resolution 17, a response to Resolution 96H-2015, was adopted to develop an  
47 ADA Policy on Dentistry’s Role in Sleep Related Breathing Disorders. The policy was  
48 developed over two years and now states that dentists are the only health care provider with  
49 the knowledge and expertise to provide oral appliance therapy for those individuals with mild  
50 or moderate sleep apnea who are intolerant of continuous positive airway pressure, CPAP,  
51 therapy. The policy also recognizes the importance of referral of at risk patients to a physician  
52 for diagnosis and treatment.

53  
54 Reference Committee C, Dental Education, Science and Related Matters had less testimony  
55 than previous years except for Resolution 30 that proposed a National Commission on  
56 Recognition of Dental Specialties and Certifying Boards. Resolution 30 was developed from  
57 BOT Report 7 to the HOD and was addressed as a Priority Item. Considerable testimony at  
58 the Reference Committee resulted in substitute resolution 30RC that was adopted by the  
59 House with less discussion than expected. 30RC establishes the ADA National Commission  
60 on Recognition of Dental Specialties and Certifying Boards. The Policy also carries an  
61 ongoing \$85,000 annual expense to cover the anticipated meeting costs.

62  
63 Reference Committee D, Legislative, Health, Governance and Related Matters, like  
64 Committee B, had no Priority Items; however, there was discussion and debate over many  
65 resolutions since they would result in amending the Bylaws.

66  
67 Resolution 4, an amendment to the Bylaws on Licensure Requirement by Statute for  
68 Constituent Membership, recognizes states that require licensure as a requirement for  
69 membership. Resolution 4 was adopted and resulted in Resolution 62, put forth by Reference  
70 Committee D, which also passed. It authorized a study to analyze any effects of the  
71 Resolution 4 amendment on ADA Bylaws and to report the findings to the 2018 HOD.

72  
73 Resolution 47S-1 received the 2/3 vote necessary to change the ADA Bylaws to allow all  
74 New Dentist Liaisons voting privileges on all Councils, while Resolution 48 was adopted to  
75 establish New Dentist Committee Liaison Assignments on Councils.

76  
77 Resolution 3RC provides Clarification of the Definition of “Equivalent Degree”. This  
78 resolution replacing Resolution 3 arose due to a concern that an oral and maxillofacial  
79 surgeon with a medical degree and not a dental degree would be prohibited from becoming a  
80 member of the ADA.

81  
82 At the first meeting of the House, Friday afternoon, the three candidates for President-elect  
83 and the two candidates for 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-president gave their speeches. The vote was held Monday  
84 morning before the second session of the House, and the result was election of Dr. Jeffrey  
85 Cole as President-elect and Dr. Richard Huot as 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-president.

86  
87 The following Officers and Trustees were sworn in on Monday:  
88 ADA President Dr. Joseph Crowley (Ohio)  
89 ADA President-elect Dr. Jeffrey Cole (Delaware)

90 ADA 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-president Dr. Lew Mitchell (Alabama)  
91 ADA 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-president Dr. Richard Huot (Florida)  
92  
93 New 2017 ADA Trustees Dr. John Harrington (5<sup>th</sup>, GA)  
94 Dr. Linda Himmelberger (3<sup>rd</sup>, PA)  
95 Dr. Julia Rodriguez (9<sup>th</sup>, WI)  
96 Dr. George Shipley (4<sup>th</sup>, MD)  
97  
98 Announcement of the 2018 ADA Officer Candidates for:  
99 ADA President-elect Dr. Richard Asai (11<sup>th</sup>, OR)  
100 Dr. Chad Gehani (2<sup>nd</sup>, NY)  
101 Dr. Lindsey Robinson (13<sup>th</sup>, CA)  
102 Dr. Ron Lemmo (ADA Treasurer, OH)  
103  
104 ADA 2018 America's Dental Meeting  
105 October 18-21, 2018  
106 Hawaii Convention Center, Honolulu, HI  
107  
108 The HDA Delegation to the ADA HOD include Drs. Neil Nunokawa, Patsy Fujimoto, Curt  
109 Shimizu, Lynn Fujimoto, Chris Lee and Senior Delegate Dr. Ed Cassella. Also in attendance  
110 were Delegation Secretary Dr. Robert Baysa, and HDA Executive Director Kim Nguyen.  
111  
112  
113  
114  
115 Respectfully submitted,  
116  
117 Edmund A. Cassella, DMD  
118 Senior Delegate