

1 Report of the HDA Delegation to the ADA House of Delegates – 2018

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3 The American Dental Association held its 159th Annual Meeting in Honolulu from October
4 18-22, and I am happy to report it was a very successful meeting. The meeting was presided
5 over by Dr. Joseph P. Crowley, who was the current ADA President. The number of
6 attendees was less than there were in 2009, the last time the meeting was held here.

7 Unaudited numbers report that a little less than 17,000 registrants attended over 250 courses
8 and visited over 500 booths. However, the attendees, courses instructors and exhibitors had
9 nothing but positive remarks in spite of some glitches due to the hotel worker’s strike. Our
10 own Dr. Calbert Lum, Chair of the Local Arrangements Committee, and his army of 200-plus
11 volunteers helped to make this important event for Hawaii a success.

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13 Most of the courses, exhibitors and ADA House of Delegates meetings were located at the
14 Hawaii Convention Center with some spillover to the Ala Moana Hotel, while the ADA
15 District Caucuses and Reference Committee meetings were held at the Hilton Hawaiian
16 Village, designated the ADA headquarters hotel.

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18 Our Hawaii Delegation (3) is in the ADA 14th District along with Arizona (10), Colorado
19 (10), Nevada (3), New Mexico (2), Utah (5) and Wyoming (2). The number after the state
20 signifies the number of Delegates allocated by the ADA based on ADA membership per state.
21 Our 14th District has a total of 35 delegates, and each state is authorized the same number of
22 Alternate Delegates to attend the Caucuses, Reference Committees and the House. In
23 addition to the Executive Director, each state can select a secretary to accompany the
24 delegation.

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26 The election of ADA officers is held the last morning of the House, and this year there were
27 many more candidates than in recent memory. Four very qualified candidates ran for
28 President-elect, and after the initial election and two runoffs, Dr. Chad Gehani from New
29 York was elected. Dr. Gehani is an Indian immigrant who brings an energetic, inspiring
30 persona to the ADA while expanding the demographic of ADA presidents.

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32 For Second Vice-president, Dr. Craig Herre from Leawood, Kansas was elected and Dr. Ted
33 Sherwin from Virginia was elected Treasurer. Dr. Sherwin was elected on the first ballot,
34 even though there were five candidates vying for the position. This can be viewed as a
35 testament to his qualifications for Treasurer.

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37 The majority of Resolutions were left on the consent calendar and were approved; however, a
38 few were pulled off to be discussed at the four Reference Committee meetings held from 7:00
39 am to 2:30 pm on Saturday, October 20.

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41 Reference Committee A: Budget, Business, Membership and Administrative Matters.

42 This section had significant discussion on Resolution 36 that was seeking a special assessment
43 in the amount of \$58 to fund the third year of a 3-year pilot project called the “Find a Dentist”

44 campaign. After much discussion, the House passed 36RC which supported funding the third
45 year of this pilot project completely from reserves.

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47 Resolution 35 was submitted by the BOT seeking a dues increase of \$22 to cover \$2,000,000
48 annual costs associated with increasing Search Engine Marketing to support ADA priorities.
49 The Board believes this annual cost to be an ongoing operational expense allowing the ADA
50 to have enhanced presence on search engines for key topics that are most important to
51 members and to have flexibility to adjust topics as new ADA priorities arise. The Reference
52 Committee heard limited testimony regarding this dues increase and supported it. Dues will
53 be raised to \$554 for ADA Active Members.

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55 Reference Committee B: Dental Benefits, Practice and Related Matters.
56 Resolution 33 was a hotly debated topic at both the Reference Committee and the House. It
57 went through many amendments and substitute resolutions before the Reference Committee
58 recommended Resolution 33RC be adopted in lieu of Resolutions 33, 33B, 33BS-1 and 33BS-
59 2.

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61 The resolution involves potential legislation for a dental benefit for Medicare. Resolution
62 33RC directs the president to appoint an adhoc committee with the relevant expertise to
63 review and update Resolution 5H-2006 and identify an implementation plan and timeline to
64 address eldercare including Medicare. A progress report is to be submitted to the 2019 HOD.
65 This resolution has the potential to have the greatest impact on dentistry at many levels, so I
66 would encourage all dentists to be alert to any information or reports in the ADA media or
67 public news media concerning Medicare dental benefits.

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69 Resolution 25 was a recommended no vote by the BOT, but significant Reference Committee
70 testimony in favor of RES 25 resulted in 25RC that was adopted and agreed with the Council
71 on Dental Benefits Program's (CDBP) recommendation to create a clinical data registry for
72 dentistry. The RC noted the need for a comprehensive approach across multiple ADA
73 agencies given that the future of dentistry will be data dependent. Resolution 75B was
74 adopted and it originated in our District Caucus and it will result in data collection that will
75 allow future comparison studies of the effectiveness of different practice delivery models.

76
77 Reference Committee C: Dental Education, Science and Related Matters.
78 This Reference Committee is routinely scheduled for two hours while the other RCs are
79 scheduled for 1.5 hours. The extra time is because Committee C has more Resolutions that
80 result in copious debate. This year was the exception for controversy and debate, except for
81 Resolution 26 and 26S-1 that gave increased importance to the Curriculum Integrated Format
82 (CIF). Res 26 was the result of a 2-year comprehensive review of the Association's 17
83 policies related to dental licensure. Redundancies and lengthy explanations resulted in
84 streamlining the policies into a succinct yet comprehensive policy. The proposed policy also
85 includes the portfolio-style and Objective Structured Clinical Exam (OSCE) testing
86 modalities already accepted by some states. It also noted that the pathways to initial licensure
87 reflected the policies presented in the report of the ADA/ADEA/ASDA Taskforce of

88 Assessment of Readiness for Practice. There was some opposing testimony, but the
89 “Comprehensive Policy on Dental Licensure” Resolution 26 was passed.

90

91 Resolution 13 was an amendment to the requirements for recognition of dental specialties and
92 national certifying boards for dental specialties. Although this was considered a housekeeping
93 amendment from passage of the National Commission on Recognition of Dental Specialties
94 and Certifying Boards by the 2017 HOD, some members expressed concern, so Res 13RC
95 resolved the minor word smithing concerns of the amendment.

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97 Reference Committee D: Legislative, Health, Governance and Related Matters.

98 Resolution 32 addressed awareness of the growing problem of 3rd party payer interference in
99 patient care and the role of the ADA in this ongoing fight. Initially Res 32 asked for
100 \$2,500,000 for dental benefits advocacy to be added to the SPA Program. This was
101 considered too costly, but the resolution had merit, so Res 32S-1 was eventually passed after
102 much debate and it directs the ADA to form a task force that will develop a broad-reaching
103 strategy for state-based dental benefits advocacy and report back to the 2019 HOD.

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105 Res 74 originated in our Caucus and was recommending continuing education requirements to
106 help dental office personnel identify Abused and Neglected Patients. This then became 74B
107 and then 74RC. After supportive testimony for all but the implication of “mandatory
108 requirement”, Res 74RC was adopted to encourage the appropriate ADA agency to draft
109 model regulations for use by each state regulatory board for the purpose of including
110 continuing education for the identification and reporting of abuse of children, people with
111 disabilities, intimate partners and elders in continuing education courses. It also directed the
112 ADA to provide courses as a free member benefit, and the word “requirement” was stricken.

113

114 Resolution 89 concerning Campaign Travel was vigorously debated and resulted in 89RC and
115 then 89RC-S-1 which was voted down and then 89RC was adopted. It directs the appropriate
116 ADA agency to study the options and concerns and to make recommendations for President-
117 elect travel and report back to the 2019 HOD. Many delegates argued that travel to Districts
118 gave the candidates better opportunities to meet District Delegations and to develop their
119 public appearance speaking skills, but opposing testimony was directed at cutting costs by the
120 use of video conferencing and related technologies.

121

122 Our Caucus I, II & III were Chaired by Dr. Patsy Fujimoto, and she was praised for running
123 efficient and entertaining meetings. She was also nominated for Trustee of our district along
124 with three other delegates, and the vote resulted in Dr. Brett Kessler from Colorado being
125 chosen to represent our seven states on the ADA Board of Trustees. He will be inducted at
126 next year’s 2019 House of Delegates in San Francisco. As an aside, Dr. Kessler completed
127 the Kona Ironman October 13, the weekend before the ADA Annual Meeting. He competed
128 in the 50-54 year old age group and finished with a time of 13:56:44. Impressive!

129

130 The high point of the HOD is the installation of the incoming ADA Officers and Trustees.
131 This year Dr. Jeffrey M. Cole from Wilmington, Delaware, ADA’s 4th District, was installed
132 as the 155th President of the American Dental Association on October 22nd. He gave an

133 inspiring address to the House stating that the future of dentistry is bright and we should all
134 strive to make a difference for our patients and our profession. Four new Trustees were also
135 installed: Drs. Paul Leary, 2nd District; Susan Becker Doroshow, 8th District; Linda Johansen
136 Edgar, 11th District; and James Stevens, 13th District.

137
138 Our current Trustee, Dr. Dan Klemmedson, is beginning the fourth and final year of his term,
139 and he announced that he will run for President-elect at next year's meeting in San Francisco.
140 He was the only Trustee in his year group to declare candidacy for the PE position.

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142 Our Delegation appreciates the opportunity to represent our members to our District and the
143 ADA HOD. The HDA Delegation to the ADA includes Drs. Neil Nunokawa, Curt Shimizu,
144 Patsy Fujimoto, Chris Lee, Robert Baysa and Senior Delegate Dr. Ed Cassella. Also in
145 attendance were Delegation Secretary Dr. Dayton Lum and HDA Executive Director Ms. Kim
146 Nguyen.

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148 Respectfully Submitted,

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150 Edmund Cassella, DMD
151 Senior ADA Delegate

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