

COUNCIL ON THE NEW DENTIST

Bray, David (6), Chair	Weinstein, Sol (7)
Grazina, Victor (NY)	Moore, Michael (8)
Carter, Christina (2)	Patel, Minerva (9)
Gelder, Bret (3)	Tang, Vera (N)
Vu, MaiAn (4)	Iacovetti, Perry (Q)
DeCastro, Craig (5)	Salierno, Christopher (S)
Roma, Matthew (6)	Schimmel, Laurence (B)

The Council on the New Dentist met Friday, March 14, 2008 at NYSDA headquarters in Albany. All members attended with the exception of Drs. Gelder, DeCastro, Moore and Iacovetti. Also attending were Dr. Madeline Ginzburg (B), Chair, NYSDA Council on Education; Dr. Ioanna Mentzelopoulou (NY), Second District representative to the ADA Committee on the New Dentist; Ms. Sandra DiNoto, NYSDA Director of Public Relations and Ms. Amie Cheeney, NYSDA Program Coordinator.

Following introductions, the council adopted the day's agenda.

New Dentist/Student Initiatives

The council reviewed various student and resident programs.

Resume Course

Dr. Tang discussed the NYSDA course, "How to Write a Resume for a Residency Program," that she presented at NYU in November. She reported that the presentation was well received by students. She suggested that a section be added to the course offering guidelines and advice on personal and professional postings in social networking sites such as MySpace and YouTube.

On behalf of NYSDA, the council will coordinate the distribution of gifts to graduating seniors at each dental school in May. After discussing ideas for gifts, the council decided that a nice photo frame would be suitable for students to commemorate their graduation day. NYSDA will include a congratulatory card with each gift that encourages continued participation as a member as they continue on to residency programs.

Resident Events

Several districts have events for residents planned in the next few months, and NYSDA will have a presence at some of them. The council concluded that NYSDA should focus more attention on residents by offering them assistance as they transition on to practice. Council members felt it would be appropriate to offer residents a small item from NYSDA as they enter residency programs. A USB computer drive on a lanyard with the NYSDA logo and Web site address was one suggestion that would be fairly inexpensive and easy to distribute. It is also an item residents would have use for. Members of the council shared ideas for presentation topics to residents. Most were practice management related as residents seem to need and want more information about the business side of a dental practice. Topics include How to Start a Dental Practice, How to Buy a Practice and

Legal Issues in Dental Practice. The council will work with the Council on Membership and Communications in expanding NYSDA's presence in graduate programs in New York State. A complete list of residency programs will be shared with local districts and members of both councils.

Membership reports/workshops

NYSDA is offering component membership programs in 2008, and council members were encouraged to consider sponsoring a membership program that focuses on new dentist recruitment issues.

The council reviewed a current NYSDA membership report, and members of the council agreed to share local district goals for recruiting new dentist members in 2008 with NYSDA.

New Dentist Leadership Award

The council received one application for the NYSDA New Dentist Leadership Award and considered extending the deadline in an effort to obtain more entries. After discussion, the council agreed not to re-open the nomination process at this time but to change the future deadline from December 31 to October 1.

The council reviewed the nomination of Dr. Michael Leifert (NY) which was submitted by the New York County Dental Society. After reviewing Dr. Leifert's nomination, the council was in unanimous agreement that Dr. Leifert has contributed a great deal to dentistry and the community. He is an exceptional candidate and should be recognized. Dr. Leifert will receive the award at an upcoming NYSDA board meeting, and will be nominated to receive the ADA New Dentist Leadership Award.

Mentor Program

Dr. Madeline Ginzburg (B), chair of the NYSDA Council on Dental Education, joined the meeting via phone conference to discuss a pilot mentor program that she has developed in the Bronx. Currently, the district is focusing most of its attention on high school and undergraduate college students to introduce them to careers in dentistry, but it is also working with dental students. The initiative has been promoted in the media, through dental offices and to school administrators and guidance departments.

Members in the Bronx have signed up to volunteer and meet with students. The experience is individualized and tailored by the mentor dentist to fit the time availability and interest of both the dentist and the student. A written evaluation is taken every three months to assure the program's success. Students are invited to attend Bronx County monthly meetings. Dr. Ginzburg urged council members to take the mentor program information for consideration in their own districts. She also offered her assistance as programs are developed.

ADA Report

Dr. Mentzelopoulou reported that NYSDA's candidate, Dr. Peter Theodorou, is the recipient of the ADA New Dentist Leadership Award. He will receive the award at the ADA Conference on the New Dentist scheduled for June in New Orleans.

Dr. Mentzelopoulou informed the council of courses offered for free on the ADA Web site that offer management, budgeting and committee resources to new dentist leaders. The ADA Conference on the New Dentist will be held June 26-28, 2008 in New Orleans. As of this date, Drs. Salierno, Tang, Varney and Vu expressed an interest in attending.

The ADA Council on Access, Prevention and Interprofessional Relations will be expanding its service awards with recognition to new dentists who are involved in community oral health programs.

Dr. Mentzelopoulou shared a brochure and DVD from the ADA OralLongevity program which is designed to increase awareness about the need to enhance and preserve the oral health of older Americans. Dental professionals are being encouraged to use the DVD in their offices to educate patients and caregivers.

Component Reports

Council members shared information about programs in their region. Events include luncheons, a new member brunch, outreach to residency programs, mentor programs, networking events, practice management seminars and family and social functions.

New Business

Survey

The council discussed ways to reach out to new dentist members and offer them with programs and services that were relevant to this membership group. It was concluded that a survey will be conducted via e-mail to new dentists in an effort to gather information about their needs and concerns.

Seeking the advice from retired members

NYSDA has a growing population of members who are retired or approaching retirement. It was suggested that NYSDA contact retired members to solicit articles that include personal reflection relating to lessons learned or "I wish I knew then what I know now." These articles could also be shared to new dentists in an E-mail newsletter format.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m. The next meeting of the council is scheduled for October 24.