



Dental Assisting National Board

Posted Sept. 29, 2023

**Summary of major actions taken by DANB's Board of Directors at the
2023 Annual Board Meeting**

Chicago, IL

July 27, 2023

Including a Joint meeting with the DALE Foundation Board of Trustees

July 28, 2023

DANB Directors in Attendance:

Lois Bell, CDA, CDIPC, CPFDA, CRFDA, MADAA, Chair; Frank Maggio, D.D.S.; Meagan Mitchell, CDA, B.S.; Barbara Mousel, D.D.S., CDA, RDH; Kimberly S. Plate, CDA, CPFDA, CRFDA, B.S.; Esther Scherb, D.M.D., J.D.

Incoming Directors (participated in the meeting without a vote):

Kerri H. Friel, CDA, COA, RDH, M.A.; Lindsay Yates, D.D.S.

DALE Foundation Trustees in Attendance:

Guinevere B. Juckett, CDA, CPFDA, CRFDA, CDIPC, EFDA, FADAA, FAADOM, President; Michael Conte, D.M.D., M.P.H., President-Elect; Vicki Brett, CDA, RDH, B.S.D.H., Secretary-Treasurer; Lori Gagliardi, CDA, FADAA, RDA, RDH, Ed.D., Immediate Past President; Lois Bell, CDA, CDIPC, CPFDA, CRFDA, MADAA, DANB Board Chair; Opal Anderson, DISIPC, FAADOM; Joanne Dawley, D.D.S.; Sandra Garcia, CDA, CDIPC, RDA, FADAA, FAADOM; Royann Royer, CDA, RDH, M.P.H.; Kathy Zwiig, CDA, CDIPC, LDA; Stephanie Bustos, CDA, RDA (nonvoting Leader-in-Training); Carlos Gaxiola, CDIPC, RDA, RDHAP, RDH (nonvoting Leader-in-Training)

DANB's Chief Executive Officer Laura Skarnulis, serves as ex officio on DANB's Board of Directors and the DALE Foundation Board of Trustees

Assessment and Certification Updates

DANB, in partnership with Professional Testing Inc., hosted a Job Task Analysis (JTA) DACUM meeting in May where a diverse group of 20 subject matter experts provided insight into the necessary knowledge and skills required to be a dental assistant. The data received from this meeting will be utilized in the maintenance of current exams and as foundation material for developing a professional model.

The translation of the Radiation Health and Safety (RHS) exam and supporting materials into Spanish is underway. DANB has contracted with a world leader in translation for the project and will be working with members of the Hispanic Dental Association (HDA) on subsequent reviews of the translation program.

As a part of its work to reduce barriers for candidates, the Candidate and Certificant Services Committee presented a recommendation to the Board for its consideration to lower the "missed exam fee" for all DANB-administered exams to \$75. The Board approved this lower fee for missed exams for the next 24 months.

Additional updates to policies affecting candidates and certificants were approved, including allowing Certified in Dental Infection Prevention and Control (CDIPC) and Dental Industry Specialist in Infection Prevention and Control (DISIPC) candidates to self-attest to their work experience; allowing for unofficial/electronic High School Equivalency reports to be accepted; increasing the amount of time for candidates to be re-mailed a certificate

before they are required to pay a fee; and adding language to the Non-Discrimination Policy that expanded the list of diversity dimensions.

DALE Foundation Updates

The DALE Foundation has launched four new products thus far in 2023, as well as two complimentary continuing education (CE) webinars. Additionally, DANB and the DALE Foundation began collecting demographic information for candidates and learners. Through June 25, 2023, 3,983 learners added demographic data to their profiles.

The Board of Trustees approved revisions to the DALE Foundation Bylaws, as presented by the Policy Committee. The Board also approved the Education Advisory Committee description, structure, and application process. The Education Advisory Committee is the next iteration of the Education Committee. This Committee will have five to six non-Trustee members and will begin work in the fall of 2023. The Committee will also include a DALE Foundation Board Trustee as a liaison to the Board. Applications will be available in August/September 2023.

Liz Koch Memorial Scholarship Update

The 2023 Liz Koch Memorial Scholarship was announced on April 5, 2023, with an application deadline of May 25, 2023. This year, funds were increased from \$2,500 to \$5,000, which allowed for more recipients to be selected than in previous years. A total of 13 scholarships were awarded.

2023-2028 Strategic Plan

Deployment of many elements of the strategic plan is underway. The strategic imperative projects are progressing swiftly due to the thoughtful development of the plan, which has allowed for quick mobilization of resources and capitalizing on some previously planned projects. [Read more about the strategic plan.](#)

The Board considered a funding request to support the strategic plan imperative activities for July 2023-December 2024. The Board agreed that funding was required to continue progress on the strategic imperatives and to capitalize on the opportunity to deliver considerable impact for dental assistants, the dental team, and the patients they serve. The strategic funding request was approved.

Collaborations and Engagement

OSAP-DANB-DALE Foundation Collaboration

The newly established OSAP-DANB-DALE Foundation Scholarship is set to launch in Q1 2024.

Engagement

In 2023, partnership and engagement activities have included a robust conference and meeting schedule focused on reaching priority markets to maximize growth, as well as relationship building with key communities of interest. This schedule continues to evolve as DANB, the DALE Foundation, and the OSAP-DANB-DALE Foundation Collaboration are presented with opportunities in key markets related to speaking and/or complimentary exhibit opportunities. We continue to see focus across the industry and amongst partner organizations on addressing the workforce shortage, including the creation of new dental assisting training programs.

The CDA 75th anniversary campaign launched in July to celebrate 75 years of the certification. [Read more about this milestone event.](#)

Social Media and Digital Initiatives

The Dental Assistants Recognition Week (DARW) campaign in March 2023 resulted in an increase in views and engagement across all our social media platforms, including TikTok. DANB and the DALE Foundation's redesigned websites launched in July 2022, which has increase traffic on both websites.

Certificant communications and recognition continues to be enhanced and the digital badge program continues to perform well. In January-June 2023, the organization issued more than 7,800 badges.

Other Priorities and Initiatives

Bylaws and Policy Updates

The DANB Board approved the amendments to the DANB Bylaws presented for consideration by the Bylaws, Board Governance, and Policy Committee. The streamlined Bylaws provide clarity, support the work of the Board, and align with best practices. The Board also approved committee charters for each standing committee outlined in the Bylaws. In the new term, the Board will review other governance policies and procedures.

The Board approved revisions to the Disciplinary Policy and Procedures, as well as the Appeal Policy and Procedures, as recommended by the Review Panel.

Legislative Activity and Government Relations

DANB continues to monitor new laws and regulations affecting dental assistants. Notably, recent legislative activity included a positive outcome in Oregon, where one bill was stopped thanks to the efforts of DANB and supporters in Oregon, and another was acceptably modified to include dental assistants in conversations where they had previously been excluded.

Board Leadership Updates

The DANB Board of Directors elected the following Directors to officer positions on the DANB Board for Board Year 2023-2024:

Chair: Janée Tamayo, CDA, CPFDA, B.S., MSgt, USAF

Chair-Elect: Kim Plate, CDA, CPFDA, CRFDA, B.S.

Secretary-Treasurer: Meagan Mitchell, CDA, B.S.

Lois Bell, CDA, CPFDA, CRFDA, CDIPC, MADAA, will succeed to the position of Immediate Past Chair. As of August 31, 2023, the terms of Steven J. Holm, D.D.S.; Constance "Connie" Reed, CDA, EFDA, B.S.; and Esther R. Scherb, D.M.D., J.D., will conclude.

The DALE Foundation Board of Trustees elected the following Trustees to officer positions for Board Year 2023-2024:

President-Elect: Vicki Brett, CDA, RDH, B.S.D.H.

Secretary-Treasurer: Royann Royer, CDA, RDH, M.P.H.

Michael Conte, D.M.D., M.P.H., will succeed to the position of President and Guinevere Juckett, CDA, CDIPC, CPFDA, CRFDA, EFDA, FADAA, will succeed to the position of Immediate Past President. As of Aug. 31, 2023, the terms of Opal Anderson, DISIPC, FAADOM; Lori Gagliardi, CDA, FADAA, RDA, RDH, Ed.D.; and Kathy Zwiig, CDA, CDIPC, LDA, will conclude.

Strategic Discussions

After the conclusion of the Joint DANB/DALE Foundation business meeting, the Boards received brief updates from Communities of Interest and engaged in strategic discussions in several areas. Additionally, Dr. Raymond Cohlmi, the Executive Director of the American Dental Association (ADA), presented an update and engaged in a Q&A session with the DANB and DALE Foundation Boards.

Communities of Interest updates included participation from the American Association of Dental Boards (AADB); the ADA's Council on Dental Education & Licensure (CDEL), Council on Dental Practice (CDP), and Council on Advocacy for Access and Prevention (CAAP); the ADA's Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA); the American Dental Assistants Association (ADAA); the American Dental Education Association (ADEA); the Association of Dental Support Organizations (ADSO); and the Organization for Safety Asepsis and Prevention (OSAP).

Upcoming Meetings

The Boards' next regularly scheduled Winter meeting will be held in San Diego, CA, Feb. 1-3, 2024.