**Highlights from the GDA September 2021 Virtual Board of Trustees Meeting**

The Georgia Dental Association (“GDA”) Board of Trustees (“BOT”) met on September 17, 2021, in Atlanta, GA, and below are highlights from the meeting.

* GDA President, Dr. Annette Rainge, provided the BOT with an update on her presidential initiatives since the July 2021 BOT meeting. She highlighted that the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (“DEI”) Task Force, in conjunction with the National Center for Civil and Human Rights, is hosting a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion event on October 29, in Atlanta. The program will include 3 hours of Continuing Education (“CE”) credits and Dr. Rainge encouraged the BOT to sign up. Dr. Rainge thanked the BOT for their support during her presidency and noted that it has been an honor to serve the members of the GDA.
* Mr. Frank Capaldo, Executive Director, introduced two new GDA employees, Ms. Tammy Johnson, Senior Director of Finance and Accounting and Mr. Thomas Beusse, Senior Director of Government Relations and Policy.
* The BOT was provided with financial statements including balance sheets and profit and loss statements with comparison to budget and prior year through July 2021. Dr. Amber Lawson, Secretary/Treasurer, reviewed the statements and highlighted any large variances. Dr. Ed Green, Finance, Benefits and Audit Committee Chair, and Dr. Lawson also reviewed the UBS account reserves and provided an update on the balance in each account.
* The BOT was provided with a membership update. A lag in dues collections continues due to the increase in retired life members, the ADA’s elimination of graduate student dues and adjustments to the discounting structure for new dentists in their first four years out of dental school. It was also emphasized that the number of members taking advantage of the GDA’s six-month dues payment plan option, that was introduced for the first time this year, is also contributing to the lag in dues collections.

* The BOT approved Drs. Heather Colson-Hardy, Kumar Patel and Jamie Mitchell to fill the unexpired terms of ADA Delegation Delegates and Alternates Drs. Chris Hasty, Evis Babo and Sidney Tourial.
* The BOT reviewed and approved the Awards Council’s 2022 nominations for Honorable Fellow and Award of Merit. The nominations will next be reviewed and considered by the HOD in November, and awards will be presented in July 2022 at the GDA Annual Convention and Expo.
* The BOT approved the Awards Council request to move the annual deadline for submission of award nominations from September 1 to November 1.
* The Nominating Committee is seeking nominations for positions opening in 2022 including District and At-Large Trustees, ADA Delegation, and GDA Vice President. Nominations and CVs for ADA Delegation are due by November 1, 2021. Nominations for GDA State Officers, District Trustees and At-Large Trustees are due June 20, 2022. Nominations/CVs should be submitted to the GDA office via mail (7000 Peachtree Dunwoody Road, NE, Suite 200, Atlanta, GA 30328-1655) or email to Jeannie@gadental.org.

* Georgia Dental Insurance Services (GDIS) provided a written report detailing member participation in health, Medicare supplements, business insurance products, professional liability and personal lines. Visit <https://www.gdaplus.com/gdis> to sign up today!
* Integrity Dental Buyers Group (“IDBG”) members now have access to fit mask testing, CPR and bloodborne pathogen training in their offices. Lasty, Dr. Loden thanked the members who are using the supply program and encouraged those who are not to give it a try. Visit <https://www.gdaplus.com/join> for more information!
* The GDA Foundation for Oral Health (“GDAF”) Chair, announced that the Foundation would be participating in a co-sponsored Remote Area Medical (“RAM”) event with Emory, in Louisville, GA from September 25 – 26. The BOT was encouraged to volunteer for the event.
* In addition to oral reports and discussions, the BOT also reviewed thoroughly written reports from GDA Committees, Councils, Task Forces and Subsidiary Companies.