



**NORTH CAROLINA**  
DENTAL SOCIETY®

**ADA®**

**Draft Minutes**  
**NCDS Board of Trustees Meeting**  
**Wednesday, May 15, 2024**  
**Embassy Suites at Kingston – Somerset Room**  
**Myrtle Beach, SC**

**Approved July 26, 2024**

***In accordance with the NCDS Conflict of Interest Statement, at this time anyone present is obligated to disclose any relationships they or a member of their family have with any business, activity, or organization that (i) competes or may compete with NCDS or its Affiliates or (ii) engages or intends to engage in any transactions with NCDS or its Affiliates, when such business activity or organization is being discussed. This includes, but is not limited to sponsors, exhibitors, vendors and contractors of NCDS or its Affiliates.***

Board Members Present or via ZOOM:

Dr. Robert Stowe (President); Dr. Joe Hendrick (Immediate Past President); Dr. Roslyn Crisp (President-Elect); Dr. Shelley Olson (Vice-President) (Chair, NC-ADA Delegation); Mr. Jim Goodman (Chief Executive Officer/Executive Director); Dr. Thomas Buttler (Treasurer); Dr. Mark Pabst (Parliamentarian and Speaker of the HOD); Dr. Woody Bolinger; Dr. Ashley Lowery-Marsh; Dr. Kenneth Sadler; Dr. David Kwon; Dr. Daryl Hill; Dr. Mary Gaddis; Dr. Naz Ahmad; Dr. Catie Cunningham; Dr. Brad Adams; Dr. James Purvis, Dr. Curtis Newsome (ONSDS President).

Guests:

Mr. Tom Lyon (Board Legal Counsel); Mr. Ralph Bizzarro (Accounting); Dr. Greg Chadwick, Dean, ECU School of Dental Medicine.

NCDS Staff Present:

Shelly Dates, Duncan Jennings, Elle Basile, Ryan Couch, and Prissy Allen.

9:00 a.m. Dr. Robert Stowe, NCDS President welcomed all to this meeting and called the Board of Trustees meeting to order.

Dr. Mark Pabst, serving as Chair of this BOT Meeting, read the NCDS Conflict of Interest Statement, and no conflicts were reported. Dr. Pabst reminded all that if something comes up that may be a conflict during discussions to please bring it to the attention of the Board. A private invocation was offered by each attendee. This invocation was followed by the pledge of allegiance. Roll call was made, and the declaration of a quorum was received.

Introductions were made for guests participating in this meeting as listed above.

Dr. Pabst reminded all that during the meeting partial comments will be made by different people. Dr. Pabst commented that the BOT does not mean to be redundant, but some topics do cross over other agenda items. If possible, it will be mentioned that the current item on the agenda was covered in an earlier discussion, and if there are no additional questions, the next agenda item will be addressed.

## Special Reports

**Dean Greg Chadwick, ECU School of Dental Medicine**, provided an update on the dental school and shared some interesting statistics.

Dr. Chadwick commented on the SoDM team numbers indication that there are 108 faculty members (full-time, part-time and adjunct). There are 234 staff members, 203 students, and 31 residents (AEGD, GPR and Pediatric Dentistry).

He provided statistics of the profile for the Class of 2027. Completed applications number 283. Students numbered 53 (30 males and 23 females). Their average GPA is 3.4 overall and 3.4 in sciences. The average Science DAT score is 20.13. Top majors included Biology, Biochemistry, Biological Sciences, Chemistry and Pulib Health. The students come from 29 home counties, which of these 17 are rural and all are from NC.

The graduating class of 2024 shows that 23 are entering private practice or community clinic (21 in-state and 2 out of state). 27 graduates are entering a residency program of which 6 will be specialty program. Six of the 50 graduates joined a US military branch.

The average debt of a 2023 ECU SoDM graduate is \$138,022 compared to \$261,226 nationally.

More than 90% of SoDM graduates who are practicing primary care dentistry are located in 70 NC counties.

Since the inaugural class, the SoDM students have represented a total of 87 NC home counties. The SoDM has more than 500 DMD graduates to date.

Dean Chadwick commented that ECU SoDM intentionally try to keep their graduates' debt levels low. He mentioned the following reasons why:

- Direct impact on their Mission
- Educational debt impacts practice patterns and patient populations
- Underrepresented and disadvantaged dental students report relatively higher levels of educational debt.

He continued his comments reporting the number of patients treated as well as providing dental care for military veterans. In 2022/2023 the school received more than \$3.3 million in research and non-research awards. The ECU SoDM was awarded \$1 million to fund a feasibility student for a special needs program. The 9<sup>th</sup> Annual CORAS event was held this year where students and faculty presented 55 poster presentations.

Dean Chadwick mentioned opportunities that are on the horizon as well as the Dean's TOP Priorities. Dean Chadwick is proud of his faculty, staff and students as well as the facility.

## Return to Business

### Approval of Agenda

Dr. Pabst asked if there were any additions to the agenda. Dr. Joe Hendrick asked to make comments on recent NC State Board of Dental Examiner meetings, and this item was added to

the agenda. A motion was received to update and approve the amended agenda, seconded, and unanimously approved:

**RESOLVED** that the amended agenda be approved as updated.

### **Consideration of Consent Agenda**

Dr. Pabst announced if there are questions about any of these reports, they will be moved to a later agenda topic. Consent agenda items are important but most times they do not need to be reviewed and discussed in this meeting. There were no questions connected to these reports. Dr. Pabst commented that if you approve the motion to accept these reports you accept all of them for information without questions. A motion was received to accept the amended agenda, second received and unanimously approved as follows:

- **2023-2024 Financial Report** *submitted by Mr. Ralph Bizzarro*
- **CEO/Executive Director Report to the BOT** *submitted by Mr. Jim Goodman*
- **Approval of Minutes** – March 22, 2024, *staff submitted (Note: These minutes were updated with the names of the AS Task Force appointed.)*
- **Foundation Update** *submitted by Sharon D’Costa, Fund Development and Program Director, NCDS Foundation*
- **NC Services For Dentistry Update** *submitted by Duncan Jennings, Chief Innovation Officer*
- **Healthcare Plan Dashboard Update** *submitted by Duncan Jennings, Chief Innovation Officer*
- **NCDS Membership Dashboard** *submitted by Shelly Dates, Chief Strategy Officer*

A motion was presented to approve the consent agenda, seconded, and unanimously approved.

**RESOLVED** that the reports provided in the Consent Agenda Calendar be approved as provided.

## **Business Meeting**

### **Legislative and Other Updates**

Ms. Elle Basile, Public Affairs Senior Manager, provided an over of legislative happenings that included the Status of SB382, Dental Practice Act Changes which are still in conference committee.

Other items reviewed were:

#### **MAR**

- Correspondence to Contact Dentists to be sent out June 1
- Correspondence to entire membership sent in e-Bite to be sent out May 22<sup>nd</sup>
- Wednesday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting with House Health Committee Chairs Scheduled
- House Health Chairs met this week with Rick Workman to hear his side

#### **Medicaid**

- HB1010 – Standalone bill filed by Reives, Lambeth, White
  - o Reflective of appropriation in Governor’s Budget to raise reimbursement rates for medical providers including dental.
  - o The entire bill would appropriate \$395M from the state budget in recurring funds for providers for the 2024 – 2025 fiscal year.
  - o \$45M of that would be for dental care providers. There is also an \$84M federal match which would bring the total to \$129M in recurring funds for the 2024-2025 fiscal year.

- This is a roughly a 28% increase in reimbursement rates for dental.
- Math to get here: Divide the total Medicaid spend for dental (roughly \$451M from 2023 – info provided by Mark Casey) by the \$129M for dental from the state budget (84M+45M).
- The \$45M is arbitrary.
- There are lottery odds this bill would pass given the \$395M dollar amount from the state budget. It would also not pass as a standalone bill.
- Not likely to happen in the short session, but a good sign that legislators are paying attention. Will continue to advocate for increases to reimbursement rates.
- Strategy Meeting Thursday, May 16<sup>th</sup> during Annual Session with Medicaid advocates.

### **Strategic Plan Update**

Ms. Shelly Dates, Chief Strategy Officer, NC Dental Society, presented a PowerPoint presentation updating the BOT on the work by the NCDS and staff on the goals and objectives of the current strategic plan. Comments were received with a discussion about the various points held.

Shelly also commented on the recent Signing Day that was held at the UNC Adams School of Dentistry. She reported that 84% of their graduating class had registered for membership in the NCDS/ADA. The NCDS also participated in the Annual UNC Think Big event where Dr. Reina Ranson, one of the recent graduates spoke to students. This event is organized by Dr. Richard Hunt and Dr. Billy Williams, both graduates of UNCASOD and Past Presidents of the NCDS.

For seven consecutive years, 100% of the ECU SoDM grads have signed up for professional membership.

Shelly also mentioned several events that the NCDS will participate in for the schools during the year including visiting HPU for orientation.

Built on last year's success, an event is being planned for new dentists. This event was awarded an ADA grant to hold these events at the district levels.

NCDS attended the ADA Lobby Day in April. Forty-one dentists and dental students made up the NC Delegation and held meetings with NC Members of Congress. The students felt it was a great opportunity provided to learn more about the importance of organized dentistry and how to be involved in advocacy. They also love the opportunity for mentorship.

Since February 15<sup>th</sup>, eight legislative dinners have been attended by Elle Basile, Dr. Gary Oyster and Jim Goodman across the state with more scheduled in the coming weeks in Guilford and Nash Counties.

A legislative breakfast is scheduled on June 19<sup>th</sup> in the Legislative Cafeteria of the NC General Assembly. Students from UNC and ECU will participate as well as Dr. Maggie Wilson and Dr. Janet Guthmiller.

Shelly mentioned that there are 7 candidates running for one Delegate at Large position and wished them all good luck.

Overall, Shelly commented that members had been engaged in many ways including signing days, UNC Think Big Event, Legislative Events, District Leadership, social events, Champions, All Stars, Contact Dentists programs. These events and participation have increased face to face interaction with NCDS/ADA members and increased engagement with all.

## **NCDS Committee on Dental Teams**

Chair, Dr. Martha Ann Keels, provided a copy of the written report as included in the 2024 HOD Blue Book. This Committee continues to review their charges and plan of action which includes:

1. Increase the number of Dental Assistants
2. Increase the number of Dental Hygienists
3. Expand the Dental Office Manager Curriculum
4. Enhance Retention of all Dental Team members
5. Promote a career in all fields of dentistry at the high school level

Mentioned at each meeting are the ways this group is working with the community college system to engage their support to increase the number of programs for both dental hygienists and dental assistants. One of the concerns heard is the lack of faculty to participate in these programs.

High School Career Programs are being sponsored by this committee which has recently worked with Ms. Shelly Dates to develop a NCDS Website for Dental Career Resources and Dental Career Opportunities. The NCDS Foundation is awarding scholarships and funding for students to take the CDA examination. As this website improves, the District Presidents will be notified so the word can be shared.

There are also keeps ideas in the works how to expand interest in the Early College of Health and Sciences. This committee is watching the NCSBDE as they address some needs. Dr. Matt Corbin and Ms. Lisa Eads keep this group apprised of possibilities for them to investigate and other health related programs that receive funding.

This group celebrates each of the dental team members during their appreciation weeks and notifies NCDS members to do the same.

This committee meets every 8 weeks and is divided into 13 teams to keep all informed of needs and support.

**Introduction of new NCDS Staff** was made by their team leaders. Duncan and Shelly introduced Ruthie Dent, Evangeline Landry and Kseniya Galayda and explained their areas of responsibility. Duncan and Shelly reminded all to visit the website page to see all staff and learn who to contact!

### **ONSDS Update**

Dr. Curtis Newsome, President commented that Mid-Winter meeting for the NDA is scheduled April 5 and 6.

ONSDS Annual Meeting will be held June 21-23 at the Proximity Hotel in Greensboro. Registration is now open on their website.

The ONSDS has two programs scheduled:

1. For Women only with dental students
2. For Men only with dental students.

Dr. Newsome commented on the benefits of an officer from the ONSDS serving on the BOT. The important information about dentistry in NC is shared with the leadership of this group. Dr. Newsome hopes that additional collaborations will be scheduled.

## Reports and/or Action Items

### **Reports from Dental School Trustees**

**ECU SoDM** student trustee, Marcus Mosley was unable to attend.

Elmira Hezarkhani, the **UNC ASOD** student trustee, provided a written report thanking the NCDS for their Support.

**NC ADA Delegation Update.** Dr. Shelley Olson, Chair, announced that due to an open position that the Delegation Chairs had appointed Dr. Victoria Hardy McGovern to the 12<sup>th</sup> Alternate Delegate position. Dr. McGovern is a recent graduate of the ECU SoDM and practices in the Morehead City area.

**Updates from the NC State Board of Dental Examiners.** Dr. Joe Hendrick shared comments on specific items learned attending the Board meetings and hearings. He urged all to check their calendar of events and participate when available.

### **2024 Annual Session Update**

Dr. Stowe congratulated the AS Committee on a job well done. Dr. Gordon Christensen is going to be a drawing card for the meeting. He thanked all for their assistance is promoting this meeting.

Shelly Dates reminded all the scheduled Awards Luncheon on Thursday. All winners have been notified so when you see one of them, be sure and congratulate them. Shelly thanked the Awards Committee for their assistance in receiving and reviewing these candidates.

**House of Delegates Schedule.** Dr. Mark Pabst, Speaker of the HOD, announced the two sessions will be held on Friday, May 17 at 1:30 p.m. and Saturday, May 18 at 10:00 a.m. and will be held in Seaside Vista which is located above the Black Drum Brewery.

### **Old Business**

**Annual Session Future Task Force Appointment.** Jim Goodman announced that after consultation with Dr. Stowe and Dr. Crisp, that a AS Future Task Force is being appointed. The Charter and Charges have been drafted and approved. Dr. Ashley Lowery Marsh will serve as chair. Other members include Dr. Ros Crisp, Dr. Shelley Olson, Dr. Brad Adams, Jim Goodman, Shelly Dates and Prissy Allen. Other staff members will be asked to join these meetings as needed for comments and thoughts or information. This group will meet every other Friday via Zoom.

**2025 Annual Session Committee Appointment.** Mr. Goodman, in consultation with Dr. Crisp is appointing the 2025 AS Committee. Jim and Shelly will assist this group along with other staff members as needed.

**Policy and Procedures Manual Updates.** Mr. Goodman has reviewed the policy and procedures manual noting items that needed update. He will be deciding how these revisions will be made in the coming weeks.

### **New Business**

#### A. **Governance Review and Clean Up** – *Mr. Goodman*

1. Councils, Committees, Charters, Charges
2. Interdependencies
  - Government Affairs – Concern
3. Annual Timeline - Process

Mr. Goodman commented that he had realized that a complete governance review and clean-up was needed with the Council, Committees structures including charters and charges. He has been reviewing documents shared with him, and it has been seen this area needed work as well as the Government Affairs section of the NCDS. During the coming weeks, these items will begin being worked on to follow the Bylaws and other areas of Policy.

An Annual Timeline will be drafted regarding this process and how it will work in the future.

**Updates to the NCDS Patient Mediation Program.** Mr. Goodman and Mr. Jennings have recently reviewed

and discussed how the Patient Mediation Program has been working. A decision was made to move this program to an on-line application and have outlined how it will work. It was explained that the dentist in question must be a member of the NC Dental Society/ADA. There will be a mechanism put in place where the name the citizen requested mediation uses will be checked to see if they are in fact a member before going further. It was decided several years ago that this program was to benefit member dentists. If the dentist is not a member, the name will be provided to Ms. Shelly Dates for contact and offer membership so assistance can be provided for the mediation request. The request will need to meet other established guidelines as well.

**Special BOT Training for NCDental Connect.** Mr. Ryan Couch, Business Process Manager for the NCDS joined the meeting and showed how to use NCDental Connect to locate BOT agendas and other reports. Questions were asked and answered, and Ryan offered his assistance as needed.

### **President's Closing Comments**

Dr. Stowe thanked everyone for their participation and for their help and again welcomed Mr. Jim Goodman as the NCDS CEO/Executive Director. He reminded all the President's reception scheduled for later this evening.

Dr. Stowe commented on the July BOT meeting and dinner normally scheduled. It was decided that all should be invited to the President's dinner at the beach. This meeting has the most BOT members to attend. This group and the NCDS staff were invited to join the other guests.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Dr. Stowe asked if there was any additional business to come before this body before he received a motion to enter a closed session. Hearing none, he proceeded with announcements.

Duncan reminded all the NCSD Breakfast scheduled during the AS and the Golf Challenge in August. Duncan also mentioned the Silent Auction being held by the Foundation during the Annual Session.

Dr. Stowe announced the next BOT meeting will be held on Friday, July 26 at 9:00 a.m. in Cary.

Dr. Stowe asked all to review the meetings and events listed at the end of the agenda and mark their calendar. There was no further business to come before the NCDS BOT, Dr. Stowe adjourned the meeting at 12:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Prepared by Priscilla Allen, Liaison to NCDS Governing Bodies*  
Mr. Goodman