

April 6, 2017
Dr. Chris A. Roberts

New GLAO Trustee to be Elected in 2018

Annually, the GLAO membership elects our leadership, including our officers, delegates, and biannually, the Trustee to the AAO. Every active GLAO member has the opportunity to vote. In the election to be held the summer of 2018, a new Trustee will be chosen.

For those members interested in serving as Trustee, a letter of interest and a CV noting involvement in organized dentistry and orthodontics, addressed to the GLAO Nominating Committee c/o Debbie Nunner (debbie@assnoffices.com), will be due by July 14, 2017. Accompanying letters of recommendation will not be accepted.

While our bylaws only state the Trustee must be an active member, the new Trustee should have experience in GLAO and/or AAO leadership.

Those considering applying should be aware of the following commitments;

- A Trustee may serve a maximum of four 2-year terms. After which, if elected by the House of Delegates, the individual continues as the President-elect, then President of the AAO, bringing the total length of commitment to 10 years.
- The Board of Trustees meets four times a year, typically in St. Louis, however we have experimented with a successful virtual meeting. In addition, the Board meets before and after the AAO Annual Session and at a summer Board Planning Session. The Trustee also attends other meetings, such as the AAO Leadership Conference, Professional Advocacy Conference, ADA Annual Session, in addition to GLAO meetings.
- Each Trustee is assigned to be the Board liaison to an AAO Council. Typically, councils have one face-to-face meeting per year along with occasional conference calls. In addition, Trustees are often members of task forces and other AAO committees, and serve as liaisons to other entities, such as the AAOF and CDABO. Conference calls are a frequent occurrence.
- In addition, the Trustee has many responsibilities to the GLAO, such as attending and providing reports at the GLAO Ad Interim and Annual Session Board Meetings, is a member of the GLAO Executive and Finance Committees, participates in the GLAO Caucus Meetings, and provides reports to the GLAO membership via the GLAO e-news.
- Obviously, the time commitment is substantial. The position requires a good deal of travel, often during what would be days in the office seeing patients. There is an honorarium, but it does not come close to what could be earned seeing patients.

Have I talked you out of running yet?

I will also say that serving as GLAO Trustee has been one of the most rewarding experiences in my life. I have met and worked with dedicated orthodontists across the US and Canada, forming lasting friendships along the way. More importantly, the new Trustee will have opportunity to shape the future of our specialty. We are faced with many challenges in today's world, from massive student debt to the proliferation of new large orthodontic programs and the increased competition for orthodontic patients. How we address these challenges will greatly affect the next generation of orthodontists. Ignoring these challenges is not an option.

I strongly recommend anyone interested in running to contact me personally. I would be happy to discuss the position in greater detail.

It has been an honor to serve you. I look forward to the future.

Chris Roberts

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