

May 15, 2019

The GLAO Delegation Report

This was my first year to get to serve as GLAO delegation chair, filling the big shoes of Richard Marcus who served as our previous delegate chair for many years. I was delighted to serve with our enthusiastic, dedicated bunch of delegates: **Tony Puntillo (IA), Jocie Weeden (MI), Valerie Martone (PA), Paul Reed (MI), Richard Kulbersh (MI), Jason Charnley (MI), Walt Schratz (PA), Greg Oppenhuizen (MI), Drew Smith (ON), and John Monticello.** Paul and Drew were new to the delegate position, and we welcomed their hard work and contributions. We also benefited from the wisdom of our Trustee-elect, Michael Sherman (ON), and the support and patience of our GLAO Executive Director, Debbie Nunner, who never tires of the questions like, "What time does the reception start tonight? Where am I supposed to be?"

The GLAO made significant contributions to this year's House. Specific contribution by our members included:

Valerie Martone was instrumental in establishing the Task Force for Women Orthodontists last year, where she served as chair. She also played a major role in putting a resolution forth from the task force to establish a Committee on Women Orthodontists. This committee will look at development of leadership pathways for women, while looking at what can be done to help women in our profession and our organization. Well done, Valerie!

Greg Oppenhuizen submitted a resolution to encourage our Council on Government Affairs to reevaluate their priorities, namely their budgetary and time investments to include more efforts directed at state issues that affect our patients and the practice of orthodontics. Greg also played a major role in the resolutions involving revision of the Clinical Practice Guidelines, the development of Autoqualifiers for Third Party evaluation of need-for-treatment of cases, and the definition of Medically Necessary Orthodontic Care. Well done, Greg!

Tony Puntillo helped promote further study on the possibility of creating a Big Data Registry, by supporting a resolution that was referred to the Growth and Transformation department of the AAO. Visionary thinking, as usual, Tony!

John Monticello served on the committee to review and edit the Bylaws. Painstaking work! Thank you, John.

Other highlights of this year's House of Delegates included:

- **Michael Sherman** was officially sworn in as AAO Trustee- elect, representing the AAO. Congratulations on many years of hard work to earn this position!
- **Chris Roberts** was sworn in as AAO Vice-President
- Creation of an Innovation and Transformation Fund, which will have the goal of developing non-dues revenue sources for the AAO.
- Funding of the Component Legal Support Fund so that it remains financially strong to help states/provinces fight legal and regulatory issues.
- Continuation of the Consumer Awareness Program (CAP)- The assessment to fund the CAP will be reset to the \$800 that was already planned for this year in a previous resolution from last year. The House received a presentation from Katie Maassen, our very talented marketing lead for the Consumer Awareness Program. The program has had tremendous success under her leadership, with strategic utilization of social media campaigns to get our message out...that *trained Orthodontists* are best positioned to straighten teeth.
- The AAO dues remain stable at \$793.

It was my pleasure to work with our talented group. The House of Delegates has to process a lot of information, quickly. Having a team of delegates that shows up prepared and ready to take on the challenge, which also means sacrificing other activities at the meeting, makes it all run smoothly.

Respectfully submitted,

Dale Anne Featheringham

GLAO Delegation Chair