

July 25, 2019

Dear GLAO New and Younger Members:

I am very grateful and excited to be your representative to the AAO Council on New and Younger Members (CONYM). My two-year term commenced this past May after the AAO annual session. I received my DDS degree ('15) and certificate and M.S. in orthodontics ('18) from the University of Michigan School of Dentistry. I currently serve as the director on the board of Michigan Association of Orthodontists. Earlier this year, I attended the leadership conference prior to the AAO winter conference and gained a better understanding of the governance structure, governance process, and the expectations for the leaders of the specialty. I hope to use the knowledge gained and apply it to my new role.

My passion is to uphold the integrity of the profession. This past February I took part in the Professional Advocacy Conference in Washington, DC. It was an eye-opening experience to be able to speak with legislature and our country's leaders in raising awareness about the student loan debt crisis along with issues facing the specialty and its patients.

I vow to be an ambassador by conveying concerns or issues to the AAO leadership and bring answers and resolutions to all members. I look forward to help build upon the success that the AAO and GLAO has achieved. This position will allow me to engage with other GLAO new and younger members, build meaningful relationships, provide service, and to fulfill the responsibilities of the position. I would like to recognize and give thanks to our previous representative to CONYM, Dr. Mariela Anderson. Dr. Anderson worked tirelessly and was heavily involved in engaging the new and younger members.

I encourage all GLAO members to attend the GLAO annual session in Fort Lauderdale, FL September 12th-15th. This is a great opportunity to get together with your fellow colleagues and learn from excellent speakers. I hope to see you there!

Respectfully Submitted,

Brandon Shoukri

GLAO Representative to the AAO Council on New and Younger Members