

August 6, 2021

Council on Membership, Ethics and Judicial Concerns (COMEJC) Report to the GLAO

Summer 2021

Stephen J. Belli, D.D.S.,M.S., Chairman COMEJC

HOD Resolutions

- COMEJC submitted resolutions to the 2021 AAO House of Delegates. The following is a summary of the outcomes:
 - **06-21 COMEJC (S1-MASO) – Bylaws – creation of a non-orthodontist educator member category – REFERRED TO COMEJC**
Result: This has been referred back to COMEJC for further deliberation and consideration. As a result of discussions in reference committees COMEJC plans to alter the resolution and re submit it at next year’s HOD.
 - **14-21 COMEJC – Bylaws – restrict members with the “senior limited practice” waiver from serving in elected positions – REJECTED**
 - **23-21 COMEJC (S1-PCSO) (S2-NESO) – Financial Policy – amendment to renewal deadline – ADOPTED**
Result: The deadline for members to renew will now be November 15th of each year, rather than December 31st.
 - **24-21 COMEJC (S1-GLAO) – Financial Policy – amendment to assessment policy – ADOPTED**
Result: The policy on assessments was simplified to indicate that academic and service members will not pay the assessment.
 - **25-21 COMEJC – Financial Policy – amendment to senior limited practice waiver policy – ADOPTED**
Result: The policy was updated to remove the word “senior” and specify that only Active/Life members could apply for the limited practice waiver.

Membership Trends

- COMEJC continues to monitor membership data and trends.
 - Renewals are off to a strong start, with 78.5% of all Active members renewed through July 2021. This is compared to 68.3% at the same time in 2019 (2020 is not a direct comparison due to the delayed invoicing because of COVID-19). In addition to Active member renewals, Life Active, Student, International and International Student categories are all pacing ahead of 2019.

- The AAO's newly released U.S. market share number is 86.3% as of May 31, 2021. This is calculated as 9,491 AAO members out of a total population of 11,000 orthodontists. This is also an increase from the 2020 U.S. market share number of 86.0%.
- With the renewal deadline being shortened by six weeks the AAO has the opportunity to influence the trend of members paying later.

Orthodontic Residency Presentations

- COMEJC continues to oversee the Resident Vitals and Financial Management for Residents presentations that are offered to residency programs annually.
 - A virtual Resident Vitals presentation was presented for all programs in the spring of 2021
 - The AAO will be inviting residency programs to register for in person and virtual presentations for the 2021-22 academic year starting in August.
 - We will be incorporating educational content on dental support organizations (DSOs) and orthodontic support organizations (OSOs) in the Financial Management for Residents program.
 - The AAO is researching incorporating a business ethics course at the residency program level.

COMEJC Membership and \ Meetings

- Dr. Michael Sherman will continue to be the BOT representative to COMEJC
- The new representative to COMEJC from the Council on New and Young Members is Dr. Mary Lanier Berne Zaytoun.
- COMEJC's next meeting will be Saturday, January 8, 2022 at the AAO headquarters.