



Council on New and Younger Members (CONYM)

Committee Name: Council on New and Younger Members

Committee Chair Name: Brandon Shoukri

Current Committee Members: Drs. Mary Lanier Berne, Mary Hoffman, Kevin Michael Kurtzner, Christos Papadopoulos, David White, Lauren Wiese, Emily Willett, Abbey Janssen, Kyla Swearingen, and Alexandra Thomas (Board Liaison)

Short Summary: CONYM has quarterly teleconference meetings and an annual face-to-face meeting in Orlando, Florida at the site of 2022 Winter Conference.

Each member of the Council serves on another AAO Council, I have been assigned to CTECH and attend annual in-person meetings. CONYM's activities over the last year have included:

- NYM liaison is assigned to each of the designated councils and committees
- Goals include plan and execute the New Orthodontist and Resident Conference at the AAO Annual Session (cancelled in 2021)
- Send representative to GORP, ASDA annual session, ADEA conference
- Email/phone outreach to AAO member non-renewals

Duties of CONYM:

- Promote the importance of AAO membership to new/younger orthodontists and students
- Represent and promote the interests of new/younger members and students to the AAO
- Provide a means of open communication and interaction among new/younger members and students
- Develop and recommend member services directed at new/younger and student members
- Develop and monitor interactive communication with new/younger members and students
- Promote the development of future AAO leaders

CONYM organizes and hosts the New Orthodontist and Resident Conference at Annual Session:

- Features speakers and topics of interest to new and younger members
- Includes roundtable discussions led by subject-matter experts, experienced orthodontists, and members of the Board of Trustees and CONYM

ASDA Annual Session: CONYM sends one representative each year to co-staff the AAO exhibitor booth and potentially participate in special events.

CONYM oversees the AAO's online peer advising program, AAO Connections, which launched this summer. Advisors will be recruited first, followed by learners. Here is how the program works:

- Program participants create profiles as advisors or learners
- Learners self-select who they want to speak with based upon their needs and interests
- Learners schedule sessions with advisors based on their availability
- Advisors and learners collaborate through the platform via one-on-one video or phone conversations

Brandon Hackworth and I discussed an initiative to collect and share student debt success stories. They are looking for CONYM to develop student debt “pearls” from their own experiences that can be shared with residents and new and younger members. Pearls will be developed into a list of the “top X ways to manage your student debt” (or similar) and published as a resource from CONYM.

Brandon Hackworth discussed a new member onboarding initiative for CONYM with the objective of contacting newly-transitioned active members of the AAO to:

- Welcome them as new members
- Establish a point of contact on CONYM
- Build emotional connections that lead to engagement and loyalty

Respectfully Submitted,

Brandon Shoukri, DDS, MS

GLAO Representative to the AAO Council on New and Younger Members