

Western PA Component Report  
February, 2022

The annual Pennsylvania Association of Orthodontists (PAO) board meeting was held in person at the Skytop Lodge in the Pocono Mountains from October 22-24, 2021. The board agreed that due to the ongoing issues with the pandemic, it was prudent to delay the CE event until Spring of 2023. It will be held in Philadelphia and alternate to Pittsburgh in April 2024. The board was in agreement that keeping the CE events in the cities where the dental schools are located will help to facilitate participation by residents and younger members.

The board discussed the need to enhance communications among PAO members due to the challenges associated with the state's members being split between GLAO and MASO. The board also discussed the possibility of meeting during a GLAO or MASO annual meeting. Although MASO extended an invitation for a PAO board member to attend their annual meeting in Puerto Rico, concerns over travel during the pandemic prevented it.

Member outreach was discussed extensively, and it was decided that the board would investigate how social media (Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter) could be utilized to reach out to members. The board revisited the idea of holding Lunch and Learns for residents, and voted unanimously to fund up to \$1500 to cover events at PA residency programs.

A bylaws change was also recommended to eliminate the mandate that directors move up each year through the Executive Officer positions. The board felt the change would allow more flexibility to accommodate directors who are not ready or do not wish to become an Executive Officer. The board also felt the change may attract members wanting to get involved but don't necessarily want to commit to 8 years. The proposed changes will be advertised and addressed at the next PAO business meeting.

The PAO annual meeting was held concurrently and unanimous re-election of current officers and directors took place following a board recommendation.

President: Alfred de Prophetis  
President-Elect: Jacob Orozco  
Vice-President: Marian Wolford  
Secretary: Brittany Franklin  
Treasurer: Jeffrey Singer

Directors: Doug Smith, Mark Rarrick, Ryan Tamburrino, Dan Fishel

Respectfully submitted,

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