REPORT OF THE REVIEW COMMITTEE ON DENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH EDUCATION TO THE COMMISSION ON DENTAL ACCREDITATION

Committee Chair: Dr. Victor Badner. Committee Members: Dr. Bruce Dye, Dr. Maya Popova, Dr. Shannon Smith-Stephens, and Dr. Robert Weyant. Dr. Linda Kaste substituted as needed for a discipline-specific program review. Guests (Open Session Only): Ms. Judith Jones, executive director, American Board of Dental Public Health, and Dr. Frances Kim, executive director, American Association of Public Health Dentistry, attended the policy portion of the meeting. Staff Members: Ms. Kirsten Nadler, manager, Advanced Dental Education, Ms. Peggy Soeldner, manager, Advanced Dental Education, and Ms. Bridget Blackwood, senior project assistant, CODA. The meeting of the Review Committee on Dental Public Health Education (DPH RC) was held on January 14, 2022 via a virtual meeting.

CONSIDERATION OF MATTERS RELATED TO DENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH EDUCATION

Report on Dental Public Health Programs Annual Survey Curriculum Section (p. 600): The Review Committee on Dental Public Health Education (DPH RC) noted that the Annual Survey Curriculum Section is reviewed during the Winter Review Committee meeting in the year the survey will be distributed; which will next occur in August/September 2022. The DPH RC considered its discipline-specific Annual Survey Curriculum Section (Appendix 1, Policy Report p. 600).

At its Winter 2022 meeting, the DPH RC reviewed the questions on the Annual Survey Curriculum Section and determined they were appropriate in relation to the Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education Programs in Dental Public Health. Therefore, the DPH RC recommended that the Curriculum Section for dental public health programs be retained with no changes.

Recommendation: It is recommended that the Commission on Dental Accreditation direct the Dental Public Health Annual Survey Curriculum Section for dental public health programs (Appendix 1, Policy Report p. 600) be retained with no changes for use in Fall 2022.

Informational Report on the Conduct of a Validity and Reliability Study for the Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education Programs in Dental Public Health (p. 601): The Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education Programs in Dental Public Health were adopted by the Commission on Dental Accreditation on August 3, 2018 with immediate implementation.

As stated in the Commission’s “Policy on Assessing the Validity and Reliability of the Accreditation Standards” (Appendix 1, Policy Report p. 601), the Commission believes that a minimum time span should elapse between the adoption of new standards or implementation of standards that have undergone a comprehensive revision and the assessment of the validity and
reliability of these standards. This minimum period of time is directly related to the academic length of the accredited programs in each discipline. The Commission believes this minimum period is essential in order to allow time for programs to implement the new standards and to gain experience in each year of the curriculum.

The Commission’s policy for assessment is based on the following formula: The validity and reliability of accreditation standards will be assessed after they have been in effect for a period of time equal to the minimum academic length of the accredited program plus three years.

Thus, the validity and reliability of the new standards for a one-year program will be assessed after four years, while standards applying to programs four years in length will be assessed seven years after implementation.

In cooperation with the ADA’s Health Policy Institute (HPI), a timetable will be developed, surveys will be distributed to the audiences, and responses will be due to the HPI within two (2) weeks of receipt of the survey. A sample format of the survey is presented in Appendix 2, Policy Report p. 601. Following a period of follow-up with non-respondents, the data will be tabulated and analysis completed by June 1, 2022. Commission staff will prepare a report with results of the study for consideration by the Commission at its Summer 2022 meeting.

Recommendation: This report is informational in nature and no action is required.

NEW BUSINESS

Consideration of Proposed Revision to Standard 2-4 of the Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education Programs in Dental Public Health related Use of the Term “Calibration”: The DPH RC discussed current challenges and confusion within dental public health education programs regarding the use of the term “calibration” related to faculty ensuring appropriate training and evaluation of student/residents. The term “calibration” has a specific meaning in dental public health research and implies quantitative assessments of intra- and inter-rater reliability. The DPH RC therefore believed the alternative use of the term “training” rather than “calibration” within Standard 2-4 of the DPH Standards as shown below would better ensure consistency in the training and evaluation of all students/residents and eliminate confusion.

(Underline indicates addition; Strikethrough indicates deletion)

Dental Public Health Standard 2-4:
All faculty, including those at major and minor educational activity sites, must be calibrated trained to ensure consistency in training and evaluation of students/residents that supports the goals and objectives of the program.

Intent: Faculty calibration training may consist of outcomes based on the use of evaluation forms, tools, metrics and/or minutes of faculty calibration training sessions showing consistency across all sites.
Following discussion, the DPH RC recommended that the proposed revision to Dental Public Health Standard 2-4 be circulated to the communities of interest for review and comment for a period of one year, with hearings conducted in conjunction with the March 2022 American Dental Education Association (ADEA) Annual Session and the October 2022 American Dental Association (ADA) Annual Meeting, with comments reviewed at the Commission’s Winter 2023 meetings.

Furthermore, the DPH RC believed the revision of terms used within the Standards related to faculty training could benefit all dental education programs within CODA’s purview. Specifically, the DPH RC recommended that the Commission direct all Review Committees to consider replacing the word “calibration” with the word “training” in the context of the Standards related to faculty calibration/training, as appropriate, with a report to the Commission at its Summer 2022 meeting.

**Recommendation:** It is recommended that the Commission on Dental Accreditation direct circulation of the proposed revisions to Standard 2-4 of the Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education Programs in Dental Public Health, noted above, to the communities of interest for review and comment, with Hearings conducted in conjunction with the March 2022 American Dental Education Association (ADEA) Annual Session and the October 2022 American Dental Association (ADA) Annual Meeting, with comments reviewed at the Commission’s Winter 2023 meetings.

It is further recommended that the Commission on Dental Accreditation direct all Review Committees to consider replacing the word “calibration” with the word “training” in the context of the Standards related to faculty calibration/training, as appropriate, with a report to the Commission at its Summer 2022 meeting.

**CONSIDERATION OF MATTERS RELATING TO MORE THAN ONE REVIEW COMMITTEE**

Matters related to more than one review committee are included in a separate report.

**CONSIDERATION OF SITE VISITOR APPOINTMENTS TO THE COMMISSION ON DENTAL ACCREDITATION IN THE AREA OF DENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH EDUCATION**

The Review Committee on Dental Public Health Education considered site visitor appointments for 2022-2023. The Committee’s recommendations on the appointments of individuals are included in a separate report.
CONSIDERATION OF MATTERS RELATED TO ACCREDITATION STATUS

Matters related to accreditation status of programs are included in a separate report.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Victor Badner
Chair, Review Committee on Dental Public Health Education