

COMMISSION ON DENTAL ACCREDITATION
MISSION, VISION AND VALUES STATEMENTS
STRATEGIC PLAN 2017-2021

Background: Noting that the 2012-2016 strategic plan was nearing its termination, in Winter 2016, the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) directed that CODA's Standing Committee on Quality Assurance and Strategic Planning (QASP) work with CODA staff to identify a strategic planning facilitator and initiate the Commission's strategic planning process. The Commission also directed a Mega Issue discussion prior to the Summer 2016 CODA meeting to finalize CODA's strategic plan.

Following the May 2, 2016 mail ballot approval to expend Research and Development Funds for the strategic planning activities, the Commission obtained the services of Ms. Elise Scanlon Esq., of the Elise Scanlon Law Group, to facilitate the strategic planning process. The Standing Committee on Quality Assurance and Strategic Planning met on June 13-14, 2016 and developed a draft mission statement, vision statement, values statements, and a draft strategic plan. Prior to the Summer CODA meeting, the draft plan was circulated to the Board of Commissioners for input. Following the Commissioner comment period, the QASP considered all input received on the draft document and finalized the document for discussion at the Summer 2016 Commission meeting. The Commission discussed the draft mission statement, vision statement, values statements, and strategic plan during a Mega Issue Discussion on August 3, 2016, and adopted the final plan at its meeting on August 5, 2016.

MISSION

The Commission on Dental Accreditation serves the public and profession by developing and implementing accreditation standards that promote and monitor the continuous quality and improvement of dental education programs.

VISION

The Commission on Dental Accreditation is a globally recognized leader for accrediting educational programs in the dental professions.

VALUES

The Commission is committed to:

Integrity: The quality of being honest, accountable, and principled.

Collegiality: Working respectfully and collaboratively toward a common purpose.

Transparency: Being open about the process by which accreditation standards and policies are developed and implemented.

Consistency: Fairness, objectivity, and the reliability of outcomes.

CODA Strategic Plan 2017-2021

Goal 1: The Commission on Dental Accreditation will be a leader in accreditation of dental education programs by recognizing the emerging areas of dental education, practice, research, and trends in higher education.

Objective 1: Anticipate and address changes in models of practice and research, and their impact on dental education recognizing the input of diverse constituents.

Action Items:

- Periodically engage with and review reports from dental-related organizations (e.g., ADA and its Health Policy Institute, ADEA, AADB, AADR/IADR and the sponsoring organizations of dental disciplines) to identify changes in foundational knowledge and dental practice that may be of interest to the Commission.

Objective 2: Continuously review and identify trends in higher education policy and regulation.

Action Items:

- Continuously monitor trends in higher education practices and USDE regulations that have the potential to impact CODA, and alert the Commission semi-annually of actions of interest and changes in best practices of accreditation.
- Maintain continuous communication with USDE, ASPA, CHEA and the accreditation community to stay current on regulatory changes and trends required regulations.
- On an on-going basis, review, revise and/or develop policies, procedures and/or standards consistent with trends in higher education and accreditation regulations.
- Maintain compliance with USDE recognition criteria, including filing reports as required and the petition for re-recognition.
- Continue to engage and participate in meetings of accrediting organizations.

Objective 3: Identify trends in scope of practice and monitor the impact on program accreditation.

Action Items:

- At least annually engage with dental-related organizations (e.g., ADA, ADEA, and AADB, state dental boards /regulatory bodies and other professional organizations) and review reports to identify trends in scope of practice that may be of interest to the Commission.
- On an on-going basis, review, revise or develop policies, procedures and/or standards consistent with trends in scope of practice.

Objective 4: Create technology strategies to improve accreditation program efficiency and effectiveness.

Action Items:

- By winter 2018 secure funding and conduct a formal technology audit to identify current and future technology needs to administer the accreditation program.
- By winter 2018 identify existing internal and external resources to assist in advancing technological strategies to ensure best accreditation practices
- By summer 2018 develop a technology strategy and plan, to improve accreditation program efficiencies and effectiveness together with budgetary considerations for implementation.

Objective 5: Create a comprehensive communication plan to enhance CODA's visibility.

Action Items:

- By summer of 2017, CODA will conduct a follow-up survey of the 2012 Communication Survey to its communities of interest to assess its progress toward enhanced communication and report the results to the Commission.
- By winter of 2018, CODA will research methods to reach and communicate information to its varied communities of interest in association with review and revision of its communication plan.
- By summer 2018, CODA will review and revise its communication plan and strategies to address findings of the Communication Survey and identified best practices of communication with its stakeholders.
- Every 3-5 years, or as the need arises, and following development of the communication plan and strategies, survey CODA's communities of interest to assess its effectiveness in responding to and communicating with stakeholders.

Goal 2: The Commission on Dental Accreditation will be a leader in the field in accreditation of dental education programs by ensuring long term sustainability in governance and autonomy, resources, best practices in higher education accreditation, and building relationship, partnerships and collaboration.

Objective 1: CODA will realize a greater level of autonomy in its governance and finances.

Action Items:

- By winter 2018 CODA will define its short-term and long-term goals for greater autonomy in financial position and governance autonomy.
- Annually, CODA will engage with the ADA Board of Trustees to develop support for changes it will submit to the ADA House of Delegates.

- Annually, CODA will submit to the ADA House of Delegates, proposed incremental changes to the ADA Bylaws and other ADA governance documents to enhance CODA's autonomy in governance and financial position.

Objective 2: CODA will realize greater autonomy in resource management.

Action Items:

- By winter 2018, CODA will assess its financial stability over the past 3-5 years (i.e., trends in revenue, expenses, and surplus) and prepare projections for the next 3-5 years (through 2021), including identifying indirect and direct expenses, with a report to the Commission
- By summer 2017, CODA will submit a proposal to the ADA for calculation of shared services based on an assessment of trends in indirect expenses (shared services).
- By summer 2017, CODA will submit a resolution to the ADA Board of Trustees and/or House of Delegates (as appropriate) to grant CODA autonomy in setting and managing its annual budget.
- When CODA is in a position to fund all of its expenses (direct and indirect) for two years, CODA will submit a resolution to the ADA Board of Trustees and/or House of Delegates (as appropriate) to grant CODA the authority to retain its annual surplus in the CODA operational budget.

Objective 3: Build and strengthen relationships by enhanced communication with CODA's communities of interest.

Action Items:

- In accordance with the Communication Plan, develop communication and marketing tools to provide more information about CODA accreditation to CODA's communities of interest, including its mission, vision, values, plans (including plans to enhance communication) and benefits.
- On a continuing basis, CODA staff will provide workshops and host hearings at national meetings (e.g., ADEA, ADA, other dental meetings) to foster relationships and provide current information about CODA, its mission, the benefit of accreditation and CODA's activities.
- Annually, CODA will develop and/or update 2-3 webinars and/or reports on contemporary topics and will create and maintain a library that is accessible to CODA's volunteers, program directors, and communities of interest.

Goal 3: The Commission on Dental Accreditation will establish a global reputation as a leader in dental accreditation by creating and maintaining international alliances.

Objective 1: Establish and foster relationships with global accreditation bodies and international educational institutions

Action Items:

- CODA will investigate ongoing opportunities for involvement with international groups in dental education and higher education accreditation (e.g., International Society of Dental Regulators, International Federation of Dental Educators and Associations, and Council on Higher Education Accreditation International Quality Group).
- CODA will support attendance, presentations and professional memberships in international groups in dental education and higher education accreditation.
- CODA will continue to offer consulting services to international educational programs and regulatory bodies.
- CODA will, as appropriate, consider establishment of reciprocal accreditation arrangements between the Commission and international accrediting agencies.

Objective 2: CODA shall continue to develop and expand its scope of accreditation services to international programs.

Action Items:

- After the Commission has accredited international predoctoral dental education programs for 4 years, the Commission will assess outcomes regarding expansion of international accreditation services, needed resources and financial implications.
- Monitor and study trends in international dental education to identify the need for further expansion of international accreditation.
- Continue to develop policies and procedures for accreditation of internationally-based predoctoral dental education programs.
- Study the feasibility of developing policies and procedures for accreditation of all disciplines of internationally-based programs, to include advanced and allied dental education.

Objective 3: CODA shall consider accreditation of international sites where educational activity occurs used by CODA accredited dental programs

Action Items:

- Monitor and study trends in international dental education to identify the need for expansion of international accreditation.
- Study the feasibility of developing policies and procedures for accreditation of U.S.-based programs offering education internationally.