



ADEA Fall Meetings
October 15-17, 2025
Hotel Polaris
Colorado Springs, CO

ADEA Council of Sections (ADEA COS) Agenda
Required for all Sections and SIG officers

Wednesday, October 15

10:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. Professional Development Workshop (Optional)

Thursday, October 16

7:00 – 8:00 a.m. Joint Networking Breakfast

8:00 – 9:15 a.m. Understanding and Navigating the Changes to Higher Education
in the One Big Beautiful Bill Act and Its Effect on State Budget
Decisions

Moderator:

Sonya S. Smith, Ed.D., J.D., M.Ed., M.A.

ADEA Chief Operating Officer and Chief of Staff

Presenters:

Jon Fansmith, M.S.

Senior Vice President, Government Relations and National Engagement
American Council on Education

Phillip Mauller, M.P.S.

ADEA Senior Director, State Relations and Advocacy

This session will review the changes to higher education contained in H.R. 1, the *One Big Beautiful Bill Act* (OBBBA, Public Law 119-21), and the evolving implementation plans being developed by the U.S. Department of Education. Join an expert from the American Council on Education who will address priority issues for federal policymakers and the unprecedented actions of the new administration. There will be a review of developing trends in federal legislation and regulation as well as a detailed dive into key issues impacting students, campuses and accreditors.

The session will also review the potential impact of the OBBBA on state budgets, and the possible impact budget shortfalls may have on future state support for higher education and Medicaid providers and enrollees.

Learning Objectives

- Describe and identify the key changes to higher education contained in the *One Big Beautiful Bill Act* recently enacted by Congress.
- Explain the potential impact of the current political climate and recent administrative actions on health professions education.
- Identify potential state budgetary changes that may put future pressure on state support for oral health education.

CE Credit: 1.25

9:15 – 9:30 a.m.

Joint Networking Break

9:30 - 11:00 a.m.

ADEA COS Think Tank

Facilitator:

Matt Mara, D.M.D., Ed.D.

Assistant Professor

Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine

The ADEA COS IDEA Tank offers a unique opportunity for SIG and Section leaders to showcase and refine their ideas. In this innovative session, presenters will deliver condensed versions of their previously submitted but not accepted conference proposals. Following each presentation, a 10-minute feedback period allows audience members to provide valuable evaluations and recommendations, aimed at strengthening these proposals for future ADEA Annual Session & Exhibition program submissions. This collaborative environment serves two key objectives: first, to observe and critically assess program presentations and second, to foster potential collaborations within the COS community that can enhance the quality and impact of future submissions. By participating in the IDEA Tank, both presenters and audience members contribute to the continuous improvement of educational programs in dental academia while building stronger networks within the ADEA community.

Learning Objectives

- Evaluate and provide constructive feedback on condensed versions of previously submitted but not accepted conference proposals.
- Identify strategies to strengthen program proposals for future Annual Session submissions based on peer and audience recommendations.
- Explore potential collaborations within the Council of Sections community to enhance the quality and impact of future educational program submissions.

CE Credits: 1.5

11:00 a.m. - noon

ADEA COS Business Meeting Part 1

Noon – 1:00 p.m.

Joint Networking Lunch

**ADEA COS Administrative Board Meeting
(For Administrative Board Members only)**

1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

ADEA COS Business Meeting Part 2

2:00 – 3:00 p.m.

**ADEA COF Domains of Competencies of the New General Dentist
Workgroup Update
(Joint Session with the ADEA Council of Faculties)**

Facilitator:

Theodora Danciu, D.M.D., D.M.Sc.
ADEA COF Chair

Competency-based education forms the foundation of academic instruction and assessment in dentistry and other health professions, ensuring the health workforce is aligned with population needs and priorities. In 2008, the ADEA House of Delegates approved a framework that defined the essential competencies required for entry into the dental profession as a general dentist. This framework has guided curriculum development, performance assessment, interprofessional collaboration, and improvements in health care outcomes. In 2023, the ADEA Council of Faculties established a workgroup to update this competency framework as a current and comprehensive resource for dental education programs. In this session, members of the workgroup will present the final draft of the revised domains of competence, prior to submission to the ADEA Board of Directors (December 2025) and as a resolution to the ADEA House of Delegates at the 2026 ADEA Annual Session & Exhibition.

Learning Objectives

- Describe the revised domains of competence and competencies for dental education.
- Summarize the process for final approval and adoption of the revised competencies within the ADEA governance structure.
- Identify strategies for effectively disseminating the updated competency framework to faculty and leadership.

CE Credit: 1.0

3:00 – 4:15 p.m.

**ADEA Research Data Portal: A New ADEA Member-Only Tool for
Insights into Dental Education
(Joint Session with the ADEA Council of Faculties)**

Facilitator:

Emilia Istrate, Ph.D., CAE
American Dental Education Association

The future of the oral health workforce depends on a continuous influx of practice-ready graduates from oral health education

programs. The training and education of future dentists are an essential part of this process. Together with members, the American Dental Education Association (ADEA) developed the ADEA Research Data Portal, a series of interactive dashboards that allow ADEA members to access insights into trends in U.S. dental education programs. This presentation will demonstrate the use of three dashboards developed together with workgroups appointed by the ADEA Council of Faculties and ADEA Council of Sections:

- Overview of predoctoral dental education programs, based on an analysis of more than a decade of data collected by the American Dental Association (ADA) on behalf of the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA). On a single dashboard, the user can access maps, charts and tables with predoctoral dental education data by state, by school type (public/private), by year. There is a variety of data from total enrollment, first-year enrollment, graduates and tuition and fees.
- Analysis of graduating predoctoral dental education students' self-reported preparedness to practice, based on five years of responses to the ADEA U.S. Predoctoral Senior Student Survey. This analysis covers questions related to clinical experience during dental school, confidence in clinical skills, confidence in other skills and preparedness to practice statements based on CODA standards. The user can view trends across all schools, by U.S. Census region, by type of school (public/private), by size of school and whether a school has an advanced dental education program.
- Comparison of the user's own predoctoral dental education program against comparison groups in terms of graduating predoctoral dental education students' self-reported preparedness to practice, based on five years of responses to the ADEA U.S. Predoctoral Senior Student Survey. This is an enhanced version of the dashboard described above that allows a dean-approved user to access data specific to their predoctoral program.

All the results will be presented in an easy-to-use format so the audience may learn how to use this new ADEA members-only tool for the education and training of predoctoral and advanced dental education students.

Learning Objectives

- Analyze differences across dental predoctoral education programs based on their state, type of institution, enrollment or graduates and year.
- Examine variations in numerous dimensions of self-reported preparedness to practice of graduating predoctoral dental education students based on size, type and U.S. Census region location of school and by year.

- Compare the self-reported preparedness to practice of graduating predoctoral dental education students of your predoctoral program to aggregates by dental school size, type and U.S. Census region location of school and by year.

CE Credits: 1.25

4:15 – 4:30 p.m.

Joint Networking Break

4:30 – 5:30 p.m.

Inspiring the Next Generation Through the Stories of Undaunted Trailblazers

Moderator:

Lisa Cain, Ph.D.

UTHealth Houston School of Dentistry

Panelists:

Keith Mays, D.D.S., M.S., Ph.D.

Professor and Dean

University of Minnesota School of Dentistry

Todd Ester, D.D.S., M.A.

Clinical Associate Professor and Associate Dean for Well-being and People

University of Michigan School of Dentistry

ADEA Chair of the Board

Leo Rouse, D.D.S.

Professor and Dean Emeritus

Howard University College of Dentistry

“There are so many untold stories, and it matters not that we believe the stories to be about a remarkable, average, common, unremarkable, incredible or once-in-a-lifetime individual. What matters is that the story is told and shared with others, as each of the unique aspects of our lives can be a blessing to someone and provide them with the steps necessary to help them reach their goals.”

– Keith Mays, D.D.S., M.S., Ph.D., Dean of University of Minnesota School of Dentistry

Through this riveting panel discussion, co-authors of the new book, *Undaunted Trailblazers II: Contemporary Men of Color Shaping Oral Health*, will share real stories of inspiration, endurance and resilience from trailblazers in oral health education. Despite some challenges and rejections, the men of color featured in this book achieved monumental dreams and reached historic milestones, forging a path for the generations behind them. Whether you are early in your career path or have several years behind you, you will discover how shared lived experiences and stories of motivation will recharge your passion for oral health education and spark the drive to help encourage the trailblazers in your own community.

Learning Objectives

- Analyze the historical and systemic challenges facing oral health education and evaluate how your efforts can help improve current

initiatives for the next generation's successes in oral health education.

- Compare and contrast the professional journeys of these pioneers with the experiences of underrepresented groups in today's oral health workforce.
- Apply lessons learned from the trailblazers' stories to develop at least one actionable strategy to promote an equitable environment in your educational or clinical setting.
- Reflect on the role of cultural humility in oral health education and assess how this awareness can improve engagement with student and peer populations.

CE Credit: 1.0

5:30 – 6:30 p.m.

Joint Networking Reception

6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Optional Council of Sections Happy Hour

Friday, October 17

7:45 – 8:45 a.m.

Joint Networking Breakfast

9:00 – 10:15 a.m.

A Coaching Mindset: Strategies to Strengthen Communication for Dental Educators, Part 1
(Joint Session with the ADEA Council of Faculties)

Presenter:

Zsuzsa Horvath, Ph.D., ICF-ACC

University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine

Coaching has been shown to reduce burnout and promote wellbeing. However, you don't need to be a coach to spread the benefits of coaching. Learn how to embrace a coaching mindset and infuse coaching skills into everyday communication. A coaching mindset can enhance communication and strengthen the effectiveness of mentoring, advising, collaborations, one-on-one interactions and teamwork. By taking a holistic approach, educators can facilitate growth for trainees and colleagues, leading to career satisfaction and advancement. Participants will develop strategies to use curiosity and direct their listening to the person, not the problem. Hands-on activities will include deepening listening skills by being present, being curious, developing a laser focus on the other as a whole person, and using reflective statements to create a space for awareness and insight. Using these skills can create a more meaningful experience for colleagues and trainees and help them achieve their desired outcomes. This workshop will build on skills developed in "A Coaching Mindset: Strategies to Strengthen Communication for Dental Educators (Part 1)" in fall 2024; however, attendance of Part 1 is not a prerequisite.

Learning Objectives:

- Describe your own behaviors that help or hinder applying a coaching mindset.
- Apply the role of curiosity in the application of coaching skills.
- Practice receiving as a deeper way of listening.
- Define empathic skills and practice reflective statements.
- Practice mentoring and coaching the whole person.

10:15 - 10:30 a.m.

Session Break

10:30 – noon

A Coaching Mindset Part 2

CE Credits: 2.75

Noon

Adjourn—Safe Travels Home!

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The American Dental Education Association designates this activity for 8.75 continuing education credits.



All speakers agree that neither they nor members of their immediate family have any financial relationships with commercial entities that may be relevant to their presentation.
