



2025 ADEA Fall Meetings
Professional Development Workshop
Resiliency in Action: Sustainable Strategies for Oral Health Educators
October 15, 2025
Hotel Polaris
Colorado Springs, CO

Sponsored by Envista and Procter & Gamble | Crest & Oral-B

Preliminary Agenda

ADEA Professional Development Workshop Overview:

In today's shifting educational and political landscape, oral health professionals are increasingly called upon to lead with resilience, intention, and a clear sense of purpose. The ADEA Professional Development Workshop offers a dedicated learning experience for faculty, administrators, staff, residents, fellows, and students. As such, the day is designed to assist participants in developing and enhancing skills, knowledge, and abilities that improve their effectiveness as leaders to better drive organizational success and advance mission-driven goals. As external pressures and shifting priorities continue to shape higher education, the ADEA Professional Development Workshop provides a timely opportunity to reflect on important individual and collective strategies that are needed now and, in the future, to ensure that we are prepared to adapt and lead change with clarity and confidence across the oral health education landscape.

Grounded in the Commission for Dental Education Accreditation (CODA) standards that emphasize a humanistic and respectful environment, critical thinking, problem-solving, innovation, and life-long learning, workshop sessions will equip participants with practical tools to build organizational resilience, implement sustainable change, and navigate institutional complexity. Through facilitated discussions, scenario-based exercises, and peer learning, attendees will explore how to lead effectively through change, support well-being, and design systems that endure. This immersive experience will foster connection, shared learning, and forward-thinking strategies that participants can take back to their institutions. The ADEA Professional Development Workshop reaffirms the essential role of not only oral health educators but the entire oral health community as stewards of sustainability and drivers of meaningful transformation in overall health care, oral health education, and the many facets of postsecondary reform.

Learning Objectives

By the end of the 2025 ADEA Professional Development Workshop, participants will be able to:

- Explain the importance of resiliency in navigating change and promoting sustainability within the oral health higher education landscape.
- Identify institutional strategies that foster mission-driven growth, organizational adaptability, and long-term success.
- Evaluate current institutional practices using principles of sustainability, systems thinking, and continuous improvement.
- Use scenario-based tools to develop proactive responses to emerging challenges in academic dentistry.

Agenda

9:30 – 10:00 a.m.

Joint Networking Breakfast and Registration

10:00 – 10:15 a.m.

Welcome Remarks

Presenters:

Angelo Lee, Ed.D.

ADEA Chief Diversity Officer

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

Clinical Associate Professor and Associate Dean for Well-being and People, University of Michigan School of Dentistry;
Chair of the ADEA Board of Directors

Karen P. West, D.M.D., M.P.H.

ADEA President and CEO

10:15 – 11:25 a.m.

Leading Through Disruption: Strategies for Resilient Academic Leadership

Learning Objectives

- Identify key challenges and sources of disruption impacting academic dentistry and health professions education, including sociopolitical, institutional, and generational factors.
- Explore evidence-based strategies and leadership frameworks that support resilience, adaptability, and effective decision-making during periods of uncertainty.
- Examine the role of emotional intelligence, communication, and trust-building in sustaining team morale and organizational stability amid change.

11:30 a.m. – noon

The Power of We: Sustaining Success Through Connection— Part 1

Learning Objectives

- Identify effective methods for establishing and maintaining collaborative communities of practice that enhance learning, leadership, and shared purpose within academic and professional environments.
- Explore the impact of connection and belonging on personal well-being, institutional culture, and long-term innovation across higher education and health professions settings.
- Exchange peer-driven strategies that foster engagement, reduce attrition, and support holistic well-being for students, faculty, and staff during times of organizational change.

Noon – 1:00 p.m.

Joint Networking Lunch

1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

The Power of We: Sustaining Success Through Connection— Part 2

Learning Objectives

- Identify effective methods for establishing and maintaining collaborative communities of practice that enhance learning, leadership, and shared purpose within academic and professional environments.
- Explore the impact of connection and belonging on personal well-being, institutional culture, and long-term innovation across higher education and health professions settings.
- Exchange peer-driven strategies that foster engagement, reduce attrition, and support holistic well-being for students, faculty, and staff during times of organizational change.

2:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Advancing Humanistic Learning Through CODA Standards: Strategies for Supportive Educational Environments

Learning Objectives

- Identify specific CODA standards that can be leveraged to foster supportive, inclusive, and learner-centered educational environments.
- Explore institutional and programmatic strategies that foster respect, empathy, and psychological safety in dental and healthcare professions education.
- Develop actionable approaches to integrate humanistic values into curriculum design, assessment, and faculty development using the CODA framework as a guide.

3:00 – 3:20 p.m.

Joint Networking Break

3:20 – 4:45 p.m.

Measuring What Matters: Tools for Evaluating Institutional Resilience and Progress

Learning Objectives

- Define key indicators of institutional resilience and explain how they relate to sustainability, adaptability, and mission alignment.
- Identify and evaluate tools and frameworks for measuring progress on strategic priorities, including equity, inclusion, and workforce development.
- Apply strategies for using data and metrics to inform decision-making, drive improvement, and promote institutional accountability.

4:50 – 5:50 p.m.

Strengthening the Academic Workforce: Faculty Engagement and Retention in Uncertain Times

Learning Objectives

- Examine current challenges impacting faculty morale, engagement, and retention within academic dentistry and the broader higher education landscape.
- Identify effective strategies for fostering faculty connection, motivation, and professional growth amid organizational or societal uncertainty.
- Anticipate future trends to develop strategies that prepare the next generation of oral health professionals for an evolving health care landscape.

5:50 p.m.

Closing Remarks and Adjourn to Poster Reception

Angelo Lee, Ed.D.
ADEA Chief Diversity Officer

6:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Joint Networking Poster Reception

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