

Council on Membership, Ethics and Judicial Concerns (COMEJC) Report to the GLAO Spring 2021 Stephen J. Belli, D.D.S.,M.S., Chairman COMEJC

HOD Resolutions

- COMEJC is submitting resolutions to the 2021 AAO House of Delegates to:
 - Preclude senior limited practice waiver recipients from serving in elected positions within AAO leadership.
 - Establish a new member classification for non-orthodontic educators who teach or research full-time at an accredited orthodontic program. Eligibility requirements and dues would be similar to the existing academic (non-United States/Canada graduates) classification. – *This was originally submitted in 2020 but was not voted on due to a condensed HOD schedule.*
 - Amend AAO Financial Policy to move the membership renewal deadline from December 31st to October 31st. – *This was originally submitted in 2020 but was withdrawn by the council as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.*
- Council also discussed but did not move forward with recommendations on policies regarding member reinstatements, dues waivers, dues proration and retired members.

Membership Trends

- COMEJC continues to monitor membership data and trends, including the 2020-21 membership renewal cycle that concluded at the end of December 2020, with drops being processed in early January 2021. Highlights, through January 2021, include:
 - Renewed 96.3% of U.S. Active members (compared to 96.2% through January 2020) and 87.1% of Canadian Active members (compared to 86.1%).
 - Renewed 95.4% of U.S. Life Active members (compared to 95.2% through January 2020).
 - Renewed 77.0% of International Members (compared to 81.7% in through January 2020).
 - 11.4% of members overall opted to auto-renew their membership for next year, including 10.3% of U.S. Active members (up from 4.7% all of last year) and 17.4% of International Members (up from 8.6%). These members will be automatically renewed for the 2021-22 membership year in June 2021.
 - As a result of providing a 3% discount on AAO dues and assessment for members who paid by ACH in 2020-21, 7.9% of U.S. Active members used the ACH payment method (up from 1.4% all of last year).
- The AAO's market share of U.S. orthodontists is currently 86.0%. This number is updated annually as fiscal year-end.

Orthodontic Residency Presentations

- COMEJC continues to oversee the Resident Vitals and Financial Management for Residents presentations that are offered to residency programs annually. Upcoming initiatives include:
 - Scheduling a virtual Resident Vitals presentation in spring 2021 for all programs and residents that have not participated during the current academic year.
 - Incorporating educational content on dental support organizations (DSOs) and orthodontic support organizations (OSOs) in the Financial Management for Residents program.

Annual Meeting

- COMEJC's next meeting will be Saturday, January 8, 2022 at AAO headquarters.