

## SCDA Governance Transition FAQs

### 1. Why did SCDA change it's governance structure?

The goal of this structure is to transition from the current Component groups to a fully integrated organization, focusing resources on providing benefits such as networking and educational programming for all oral health care providers treating patients with special needs rather than on individual practice areas which are distinct, but also have significant areas of overlap. This move will also streamline operations and engage the SCDA membership in the organization as a whole rather than in fragmented areas.

### 2. How did the SCDA Board come to this decision?

One of the main responsibilities of the Board is to ensure the future success of SCDA. As part of SCDA's strategic planning that took place in September 2012, the Board seriously discussed transitioning the Components to Councils at which time the current Component Presidents had the opportunity to contribute to the discussion. Based on these discussions, the Board felt it had enough information to proceed with the transition.

### 3. When will the transition take place?

- a. The transition will take place in April 2013 after the conclusion of the Annual Meeting.

### 4. What are the Councils?

Councils are being established for the three practice areas of hospital dentistry, dentistry for persons with disabilities and geriatric dentistry. The council will be led by a Chair and a Vice-Chair who will ensure the council participates in its annual activities. For example:

- Sponsor one project or initiative that helps educate the SCDA Membership on a topic specific to the council area of interest (i.e. webinar, fact sheet, Annual Meeting presentation, etc.).
- Sponsor one project designed specifically for the benefit of council members (case review by webinar or discussion forum, resources for providers, etc.).
- Contribute one manuscript, editorial or other submission to *Special Care in Dentistry*.
- Contribute one article to the SCDA monthly update on an annual basis.
- Monitor and encourage participation in the council discussion forum.
- Identify new sponsorship leads (company and contact name) for staff follow-up.

### 5. How do I become involved with the councils?

All SCDA members are eligible for membership in one or more SCDA councils and will be able to select their group(s) of interest upon joining SCDA and will reaffirm their desired affiliation annually during the dues renewal process.

### 6. What are the benefits of joining a council?

- Participation in interest group-specific discussion forums.
- Networking event at the Annual Meeting for each council.
- Access to educational programming as developed through council leadership.
- Opportunity for professional growth by publishing, speaking or developing a resource through participation with the council annual activities.

### 7. What will happen to the three fellowship exams?

The three fellowship exams will still be administered as usual in 2013. A Council on Fellowship is being formed to undertake combining the three fellowship exams into one exam which would be administered in April 2014.

**8. What will happen to my fellowship credential?**

Anyone who has earned one of the three fellowship credentials (FASGD, FADPD, FAAHD) will maintain the use of their credential unless they sit for the new combined exam. Anyone who sits for the new exam beginning in April 2014 will earn the FSCDA credential.

**9. How will the Awards Committee be structured?**

The SCDA Awards Committee will be responsible for soliciting nominations and selecting recipients for the four SCDA Awards (Chasko, Ettinger, Berk and Kamen). The committee will be comprised of a Chair and Vice-Chair, the Chair of each Council and two at-large representatives.

**10. How else can I become involved with SCDA?**

SCDA is always looking for volunteers to serve on committees, task forces or serve in a leadership role on the SCDA Board of Directors or the councils. If you are interested in more information regarding these opportunities please contact SCDA at [scda@scdaonline.org](mailto:scda@scdaonline.org) or 312.527.6764.