

THE COLUMBIA CROWN

Interview with the President

Corwyn Hopke is currently ASDA's National President.



What is the biggest problem facing dental students today?

A: The financial burden of dental school. The average debt burden for dental students upon graduation is approaching \$200K, most of which is taken out in loans. Add in residencies, business loans, etc, half a million to a million dollars worth of debt is facing new graduates. *This debt burden hinders them from practicing the way they want – serving underserved areas is a less likely option* because students are looking to make a larger profit in order to pay back their student loans.

What is it like being ASDA's National President?

A: It's a great experience. I've met students at every single dental school in the country. It gives me a perspective that I don't think you could get any other way.

What was your path to becoming President?

A: Being a non-traditional student, I had not heard of ASDA before coming to Columbia because I was not a pre-dental student. I ran into Amanda Hochstein (CDM c'o 2010), and she described the position of Legislative Liaison (LL). Given my history of political activism, I thought that seemed pretty interesting. I ran for ASDA class rep at Columbia in the hopes that I would be considered later for LL. During second year, I went to annual session in Scottsdale, AZ

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and saw the real organization of ASDA. Nearly every dental school was represented and everyone was committed to supporting each other and the advancement of dental students. In Scottsdale, I decided that I was going to run for Speaker of the House the next year. It felt like a perfect fit because I'm one of 2 student Professional Parliamentarians in North America.

What advice do you have to 1st years about getting involved in ASDA?

A: *Do it.*

INTERVIEW CONTINUED

How do you balance school and clinic with the time commitment?

A: First, I've had to have to prioritize, and sleep must be high on the priority list because to be productive, I must be well-rested. Second, be nice because you're going to need the help of your friends. I mean, I miss a lot of class, but I always have people who are willing to share notes or swap clinic days with me if I ask. I couldn't have passed without their help and support.

Where is the coolest place you've traveled with ASDA?

A: That's a tough one because I have been to a lot of really great places.

The coolest location I've been to was probably Amsterdam for the European Student Dental Association.



Corwyn with Ron Tankersley, immediate Past President of the ADA
Probably the *most memorable* is when I was invited to speak to the ADA Board of Trustees in April 2010 in the Board Room of the ADA Building in Chicago— that's an intimidating room, but incredibly exciting. You've got all the big wigs in organized dentistry in their high backed leather chairs watching you and hanging on every word you say. It's very intimidating, but also encouraging because they genuinely wanted to know what I had to say.

A LETTER FROM THE EDITORS

Alexandra Malebranche

It's been an exciting new year for the ASDA Editorial board. Adeola, Meryl and I have been working hard to deliver an exciting and informative newsletter. We've added a few recurring sections like *Broadening your Scope*--each newsletter will feature a different leader of a National organized dentistry group so that all of you can find new ways to get involved outside of CDM. There's information on upcoming community service opportunities such as ASDA's very own Free Clinic! On page --, you can find *Smart Mouths* which focuses on the future of dental education. This month's editorial is on the future of the NBDE and ASDA's roll in shaping it's policy. Also, check out the new ethics section and contest (with an awesome prize!) on page 8 and the website!

We hope you enjoy all that we have to offer!
Alexandra
Editor in Chief



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LEGISLATIVE CHART NOTES

Dustin Bowler

When I was growing up, all of the kids on the neighborhood would get together and play every afternoon. Some days we played football, some days basketball, baseball, hide and seek, maybe even kick the can; it was always something different. The rules were always changing in order to make it more competitive or just to tip the odds in favor of those making the rules. The same holds true for us today. As dental students and future practitioners, we are regulated by an ever-changing set of rules. Whether it be HIPAA, student loan tax credits, student loan distribution, or changes in Medicaid reimbursements, the rules are always changing, and it is our privilege and responsibility to be involved in ensuring that these rule changes result in the best care both for our patients and also for our profession.

Nothing is going to change access to care, standard of care, and practice management as quickly or definitively than the changing of laws and enactment of new legislation. Changes occurring now will affect us dental students more than the practicing dental professionals because the rules will be in effect for the entire length of our careers.

It is imperative that we as students get involved in making decisions that will shape our profession. It is much better for us to determine the direction of the profession ourselves than allowing others to impose their will on our industry and service.

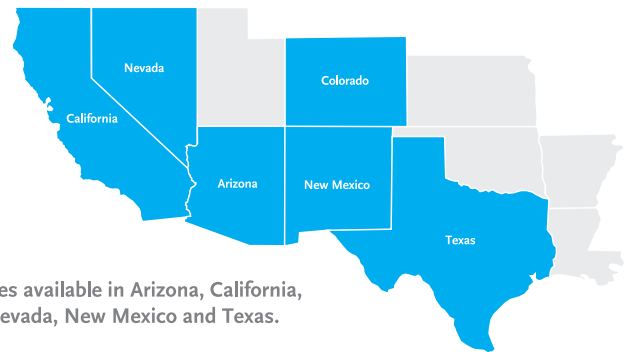
The most important ways that students can get involved is by taking time out of our busy school schedules to stay up to date with what is happening by reading newsletters and following the news. ASDA and ADA newsletters are great ways to get Educated on the issues. It is imperative that we stay informed about ways to have our voices heard and when those opportunities arise to speak up for our rights as future dentists in Washington or Chicago, take advantage of it. National Student Lobby Day is scheduled for March 28-29th, 2011. There is plenty of time to get informed, and prepare to propagate the changes that are necessary for our profession to grow and thrive. Get involved and make your voice heard.



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Steve Boss, Corwyn Hopke and Dustin Bowler at the 2010 Dental Student Lobby Day in Washington, DC.

ARE YOU RUNNING LOW ON TOOTHPASTE?



Yoni Moskowitz

Every year, Columbia ASDA runs two vendor fairs, these are the only opportunities dental vendors have to come and show off their products and services to the students, faculty, and residents at Columbia University. This year's event, will be held on October 22nd in Bard Hall basement. In the past the event has been packed--there's a tremendous turnout from the entire school eager to see what new

dental innovations are available, as well as, free products and prizes.

Typically a large variety of vendors participate: Proctor & Gamble, Colgate, and Johnson & Johnson give out samples of their daily hygiene products. While Aspen Dental, Pacific, National Guard and Federal Bureau of Prisons enlightened students to the various job opportunities available after dental school. Several loupe and light vendors are on hand to show off the latest gear. One vendor, Orascoptic even gave away a free pair of loupes for completing the vendor fair "game," which you can participate in at the fair.

Access Group and Medpro come to educate students and dentists alike on dental and malpractice insurance. For all the Mac-lovers, MacPractice has a presentation on their Apple

computers with iPads and the latest dental management software.

Many vendors generously contributed prizes in the past to the raffle that was open to anyone in attendance. Notable prizes included a pair of Orascoptic Loupes, Surgitel Oakley sunglasses, an Ipod nano from Aspen dental, Oral-B Powerbrush, and a \$500 gift-certificate to the Hu-Friedy catalog. All this *and* free lunch? Sounds like a great deal! Hope to see you all there at this years vendor fair.

Free prizes, free toothpaste *and* free lunch? If you think it sounds like a great deal--it is! Hope to see you all there at this year's vendor fair.

Friday, October 22nd

Bard Hall Basement

DISTRICT 2 MEETING SCHEDULE - *All events will be hosted in A1 in the P&S building.*

Friday October 22, 2010

Time	Function/Presentation
11am - 1pm	Vendor Fair
12 - 1pm	Registration
2-3pm	District 2 Welcome Reception- Dean Lamster
3-5pm	Tour of Columbia's Post-Doc programs

Saturday October 23, 2010

Time	Function/Presentation
9:00 - 10 am	Opening Session
10:00 am - 11	Social Responsibility and the "What Goes Around Comes Around" Approach to Life and Business. Mr. Steve Kess <i>VP Global Relations/Professional Affairs Henry Schein</i>
11:00 am - 12pm	Integrating Malpractice Education into the Dental School Experience Ms. Mary Taylor <i>Medical Protective</i>
12-12:20 pm	Beyond the Four Walls:A New Adjunct for Dental Students -- <i>NxtDDS</i>
12:20 - 12:30	ADPAC - Dr. Ed Fineberg
12:30 - 2 pm	Lunch/Discussions <i>Lunch provided by TASTY DELI</i>
3-4 pm`	Associateships: Steps to Success for New Doctors Mr Keith Drayer <i>Financial Services Director Henry Schein</i>
4-5 pm	The Top 5 Things I Learned in Dental School Dr. Chris Salierno <i>Past ASDA President</i>
5 - 5:30	District LL Training-- Ehlie Bruno <i>Eastern RLC</i>
5:30 - 6	District Cabinet Meeting -- Steve Boss <i>District II Trustee</i>
9 - 12 pm	District 2's "I'm On a Boat Bash" The Frying Pan <i>Sponsored by: Henry Schein</i>



ASDA BEGINS PARTNERSHIP WITH STUDENT RUN FREE CLINIC

Marcus Couey

Over the past two and a half years, great strides have been made by the dental students at CDM toward creating a functional, completely free dental clinic to provide care to the homeless and underserved populations in NYC. Today, as the result of loads of research, generous donations, and the hard work of devoted student and faculty volunteers, the CDM Student Run Free Clinic is poised to start its newest and most exciting chapter to date. For those who are involved with the project, the belief is that this will be the practical, economical, and sustainable reincarnation of past community efforts.

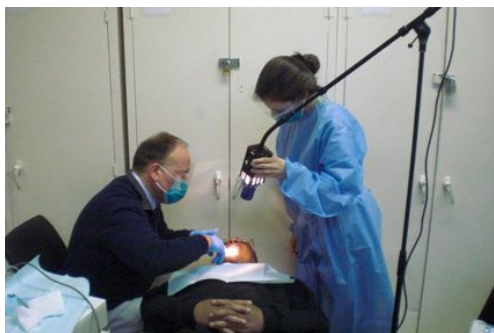
The complete history of the Student Run Free Clinic is too lengthy for this article, but a brief synopsis is warranted in order to shine some light on its current operations. The SRFC began life as an offshoot of the Columbia-Harlem Homeless Medical Partnership (CHHMP, pronounced "champ"), the medical student-run free clinic here at Columbia. CHHMP has been operational at St. Mary's Church in Harlem, NY for over 3 years and sees about 300 patients annually. Shortly after its inception, the leaders of CHHMP realized their patients' great need for dental care and reached out to CDM students to

come up with a solution. Volunteers from the dental school jumped on the opportunity. With the help of enthusiastic CDM faculty they eventually overcame the numerous bureaucratic and logistical hurdles and began offering free treatment at St. Mary's Church in March of 2009.

Since then many things have changed, though some very important points remain the same. The SRFC is still closely associated with CHHMP, and the hours of operation are still 5:30 to 8:00 on Tuesday evenings. But while care was originally provided primarily through the use of Columbia's Mobile Dental Van, changing circumstances eventually required the students to come up with a new model. CDM students rose to the challenge by securing the use of two self-contained mobile dental units, three dental chairs, two portable dental lights, two cavitrons, and many donated instruments and supplies. From their experiences using this type of equipment, the SRFC approximates their total capacity to be at least six patients per night.

Currently the SRFC is equipped to provide adult prophylaxis, scaling and root planning, oral exams and oral hygiene instruction to patients without requiring any payment, proof of insurance or documentation. Any patient who presents at the clinic can be seen by dental and/or

medical students and treated under the supervision of the attending dentists and physicians. Students are able to sign up ahead of time for each date and may volunteer as often as they like. The SRFC will initially resume operations every-other Tuesday



this fall, and the goal is to be operational every week as soon as this Spring.

Marcus is the newly selected Co-Community Service Chair along with Bari Schwartz.

He is bringing his expertise in the Student Run Free Clinic to ASDA leadership. If you would like to get involved please contact him at mac2280@columbia.edu.

Special thanks to Dr. Marshall, Dr. Bunza, Dr. Mitchell, and Dr. Spears. This project would not have been possible without their incredible support. Sincere thanks to CHHMP and the CDM classes of 2009 and 2010 for their generous donations to the SRFC.

OVERHEARD in
HAMMER

Amy Kristina Herbert.

Conversation #1
on Schedules

Me: (in response to hanging out) well third year we have time so we usually represent at school parties.

Med student: I am a little jealous of your 3rd year right now, but i could never be a dentist, I couldn't ever go to dental school.

Me: well, its not for everyone, Med. Its not for the weak.

Med student: *Blank stare*

Conversation #2
on Character

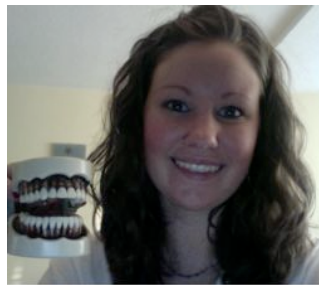
Med student: I can't wait to be a grown up.

Me: I can't wait to return to being one. I told my friend in an email last night that I missed being a real person.

Med student: huh?

SMART MOUTH: Changes to the NBDE
Kayleigh Eaves

The National Board Dental



Examination is changing course over the next few years. Part I & II are moving from a quantitative evaluation to a pass-fail system as of January 1st, 2012. The initiative began when both Part I & II moved to a non-retake format on January 1st, 2010, therefore any student who passes is no longer allowed to retake the exam. The Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations (JCNDE) has begun this process in an effort to focus the utilization of the board exams by admission committees. The JNCDE has maintained that *Part I scores are not intended to quantify our abilities*, but to ensure that dental students know enough basic sciences to safely and adequately practice dentistry: it was not intended to go beyond this, so it follows that the comparison of composite scores of Part I are not intended to allow comparison among students.

Failure rates are very low among Part I test takers– 5.2% in 2009. Unfortunately, *Part II saw a tremendous increase in failure rate last year – 13.5% in 2009, the highest in the past ten years and more than double the ten*

year-average rate of 6.5%. The JNCDE has investigated the increase and concluded that there was nothing wrong with the exam. ASDA responded to this report with a letter to the Chairman, Dr. Bruce Horn, insisting upon: immediate exam recalibration, explanation of the question review process, shorter time between retakes, and reduction in the retake fee. ASDA's new L-4 policy is in opposition with that of the JCNDE. ASDA supports a quantitative (non pass-fail exam).

In the end, the fact that Part I is moving to pass-fail is an incredible shift in the dental school paradigm, especially for an institution like Columbia, which utilizes an Honors-Pass-Fail system. Multiple proposals have been put forward to solve this problem. The biggest problem with a new speciality exam is that very few dental students will take it since only 20% of students apply for post graduate studies – the fewer people who take it, the more expensive the exam will be, and the worse the statistics are due to limited data. The Advanced Dental Admissions Test is a proposal to provide a quantitative score for all dental students without requiring an extra exam, so it is incorporated into Part I so that all dental students would take the exam. Thus, the ADAT would lower costs since all students take it, and the statistics would be better because a higher percentage of students would provide data. Some specialties, like Oral Surgery, are looking into developing their own exam for evaluating oral surgery applicants. ADEA has developed the FADEA, the feasibility of advanced dental education admissions, a group focused on how to deal with the changes in Part I.



Corwyn Hopke is ready to defend the future of dentistry on the ADA House of Delegates floor...

6 hours ago · Comment · Like

Corwyn--working overtime for dental students nation-wide :-)

Continued on page 7

A recent survey of post-graduate program directors revealed that academic excellence ranked tenth in a list of most important qualities for residents.

The future of dental school examinations is somewhat up in the air. ASDA has made a clear stance and provided significant input to the ADA, ADEA, and the JNCDE on behalf of dental students. Only time will tell the fate of examinations, but *one good thing to consider is that it's the end of the 'make it or break it' era for Part I.*

BROADENING YOUR SCOPE:

ORGANIZED DENTISTRY

Q&A with Steve Boss



ASDA is the biggest dental student advocacy group in the nation, and even though national involvement seems like a lofty goal, the doors are wide open too all students to step in and get to know the people and policies that will affect their lives now and the direction they'll take as future professionals.

Let's get to know an ASDA leader [District 2 Trustee, Steve Boss](#)

What convinced you that ASDA was an organization you wanted to become active in?

A: The first thing I went to was Lobby Day. Just statistically, the ADA represents about 75% of dentists while the AMA represents less than a quarter of practicing physicians. It was a great opportunity to see how much the ADA does for us and how we can have strength in numbers. I also saw how smoothly the organization was run and how it benefits students. I learned about the issues facing dentists and dental students. *Overall, Lobby day clearly relayed the importance of organized dentistry.*

If I was a first year, what you would say to me? How should I get involved?

A: Start by asking yourself what aspects of organized dentistry interest you. I had ideas about what I wanted to do, and people referred me to ASDA. *I applied for the ASDA summer externship in November,* and through that got in touch with the national ASDA president, vice president and other student leaders. I went out of my way to talk to the President and VP to get my foot in the door - Corwyn, the Speaker of the House at the time, gave me their numbers and I just called them. Reach out to the leaders and ask them how you can use your talents to benefit the organization.

How has your involvement in organized dentistry enriched your CDM experience?

A: I feel like I know a lot more about what is coming next. It has made me realize what is

important for the future. *We get caught up working in such a small space that sometimes it's hard to remember there's a bigger world out there. I got perspective out of it concerning what's important and what the potential issues are.*

What do you think is the best part of getting to meet and work with the people most actively involved in organized dentistry?

A: It's the opportunity to ask questions. The ADA has their hands in so many aspects of dentistry and business. I have gotten to meet with the Corporate manager, people who are working with new initiatives, as well as people developing models for service and dental workforce issues. I've learned about the different services the ADA provides - they have people who are willing to read over contracts to ensure they're working in your best interest. They do so much, it's not just one thing, so it's a valuable opportunity to learn from a lot of different people.



If you're interested in applying to an ADA externship like Steve did, you can [ASDAnet.org](#) under "Leadership."

DEFINING ETHICS

Scott Bryant



Ethics- is a search for truth. We live in a world of right and wrong. In spite of whatever post-modern philosophy is the newest flavor of the week, there is a black and white truth that exists to explain and solve problems in life and in dentistry. These truths are hard to elucidate in the often-messy real world. We have to sift through those shades of gray to come up with the closest answer to the truth.

By having an official position within ASDA dedicated to ethics, every student has an excellent opportunity to take part in this journey towards truth. As future clinicians, we have an obligation to act ethically and in doing so serve our patients with the utmost respect in regards to their oral health and emotional well-being. Thinking ethically should always be at the forefront of

our minds as it should guide us in every aspect of patient care. This upcoming school-year will be my inaugural year as the ASDA Ethics Chair. ASDA will be holding many exciting and accessible events enhance every student's ethical and professional. We hope to provide students with the resources they need to think and act ethically. Ethics can indeed have epic consequences, but it is also a subject should be discussing often as it helps create small



applicable solutions to everyday impasses in dentistry. Through ethics and the many other facets of ASDA, we can continue to grow as students and professionals. often as it helps create small applicable solutions to everyday impasses in dentistry.



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Sponsored by Henry Schein District 2 Party

9PM- 12midnight at

The Frying Pan

Pier 66

26th St and the West Side Highway



Contributing Editors



ALEX MALEBRANCHE

Alex is a 3rd year dental student from Northern California. She's interested in pursuing a career in Pediatric Dentistry.



ADEOLA ABISOGUN

Adeola (pronounced **A-day-lah**) is 2nd year dental student currently serving as ASDA's secretary.



MERYL K. BROWN

Meryl is a 3rd year student from the Mid-West. She lives with her amazing husband in the Upper West Side.