

The CADAT Connection

Member eBulletin

The California Association of Dental Assisting Teachers, Inc.

*News and Information for Members of
the California Association of Dental Assisting
Teachers*

January 2016 Member News



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Dear Member:

Happy New Year to all! We hope all of our members have enjoyed this holiday season. With the new year, our organizational campaigns are in full swing with membership and 2016 Annual Educators Conference and CE

Day.

In the past few months, we have sent out early-bird invoices for 2016 new and renewing memberships with a few changes:



- Invoices indicated a new fee structure for those renewing or becoming a new member by December 31, 2015.
- Invoices indicated the current status of each member, their fee renewal if by 12/31/15 and their fee if paid after 1/1/16.
- 2016 membership applications were enclosed in each statement for easy access and submission.
- New Institutional Membership category was established to offer discounts for schools with as many as ten faculty and staff - [click here](#) for more details

Thank you to all who have already taken advantage of the early renewal savings.

As we continue to transfer and reassign business operations, we are pleased to have the continued support and assistance from our supportive collaborators, the FADE, whose team members will help manage our membership processing for the coming year. Should you have any questions regarding your membership, institutional membership, processing or documentation please do not hesitate to contact the

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(916) 357-6681
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central office at (916) 357-6681. The Foundation team will be happy to help with your membership processing needs.

In addition, the "EarlyBird" conference registration has been posted on the current website. This coming year will bring a similar format but a difference focus, including:

- the return of non-member rates to attend
- choices of one day attendance or full conference
- Friday evening hosted reception and vendor showcase open to all attendees
- the return of a CADAT business meeting for members only

2016 Conference

Save-the-Date Manhattan Beach



April 22 - 24, 2016

Look for more news and information about the 2016 Annual Educators Conference and CE Day in the article below and on our website at www.cadat.org and look for the [Events page](#). You do not have to log-in to obtain conference news and information.

Respectfully,

Lorraine Gagliardi, CDA, RDA, RDH, Ed.D
President - CADAT

This Issue of the eBulletin is Dedicated to Our Executive Director on Her Day of Retirement Dec. 1, 2015

Ms. LaDonna Drury-Klein RDA, BS, is recognized for her commitment and dedication to the dental assisting profession serving as the first Executive Director (ED) of CADAT from 2009 through 2015. Prior to her appointment as ED, she was a member for nearly 26 years, who served as association President and a volunteer leader. She has been an entrepreneur for dental services and a dedicated speaker focused on OSHA, Infection Control and California Dental Practice Act as well as writing regulations and statutes supporting education and the dental assisting profession in California.



LaDonna Drury-Klein

During her 18 years of clinical dentistry, she earned degrees in biological sciences and business management and worked over 20 years as a dental educator, speaker

and trainer for all dental professionals. Ms. Drury-Klein served as a two-time appointee to the Dental Board of California under Governor Gray Davis and is often called upon as a subject matter expert to assist in developing regulatory and statutory language for dental assisting-related oversight. In 2011, she established the Foundation for Allied Dental Education (FADE) as a non-profit, public benefit organization targeted on supporting the educational and professional development needs of all allied dental healthcare personnel and as a collaborative supporter of CADAT.

LaDonna has focused much of her attention toward authoring textbooks and preparation resources for state and national dental assisting examinations, infection control and compliance manuals. She is always there to lend a helping hand whether it be to answer member questions, design a special CADAT pin, run a conference or event, write a regulation or compliance manual, network with others or pick-out a perfect meal and glass of wine.

We will forever be grateful for her years of service as the Executive Director of CADAT and her artistic talent, mentorship, and friendship. On behalf of the membership and Executive Board members, we are sincerely grateful to her for being the backbone of CADAT throughout the years, and we all wish her the best in her new journey with FADE.



www.thefade.org

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Legislative Update

As noted in our last report, much has changed with respect to the Sunset Review Committee's response to the Dental Board's handling of the RDA practical examination. AB178 (Bonilla/Hill) was amended to remove the urgency clause regarding the RDA practical moratorium and all language pertaining to how the examination shall be assessed for future applicability was moved into the reauthorization Bill for the Dental Board, AB179 (Bonilla).



John Valencia, Legislative Advocate/Lobbyist

As it relates to the RDA practical examination, the strong opinion and early decision-making by the two Chairs of the Sunset Review Committee (Bonilla and Hill) to set aside the practical softened to allow the Director of the Department of Consumer Affairs to insist that the Bill include a provision allowing the Dental Board to determine whether or not the examination is a worthy process to continue administering. In simultaneous fashion, the examinations have suddenly resulted in higher pass rates, more progressive and positive communication and handling of candidates at the examination sites, and overall improved performance by all engaged in the process.

The language of AB179 preserves, to some degree, the practical examination for as long as the Board chooses; however, those who spoke out against the moratorium on the practical may now be faced with the new consequences. As we see this language, should the Board choose to eliminate, suspend or change the practical for any length of time, and for any reason, including the outcome of the occupational analysis, the licensure process in total may be affected. Given that current law requires three examinations be passed in order to become licensed, the Bill carried no provision to amend existing law allowing for the Board to continue issuing RDA licenses should the practical be suspended or removed, thus creating a consequence that, whether intended or not, could impact licensing of dental assistants.

Our collaborative team of advocates wish to thank all those members who supported our initiatives and the students who came forward to highlight the issues with the RDA practical examination over the past year. Your efforts did exactly what was needed - create an environment of change and make the Board accountable to a higher authority going forward. With legislative and DCA watchdogs asking for continued accountability, we will hopefully see continued trends upward with the examination stats and encourage all members of CADAT to support your representatives as they continue to work for you and your students.

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2016 Annual Conference and CE Event April 22 - 24, 2016

Exciting news: The 2016 Annual Conference and CE Event will once again be a collaboration between CADAT and the Foundation for Allied Dental Education (FADE). The Foundation will be handling all operations in coordination with the CADAT Executive Committee and with supportive initiatives from our friends from the Dental Assisting National Board and the DALE Foundation.



This coming year, attendees will engage in the following activities in Manhattan Beach:

- Friday, April 22: all day CE event featuring topics involving restorative dentistry, oral cancers, new polishing techniques and aspects of dental practice regulations
- Friday evening, April 22: "Demos, Drinks and Desserts" reception sponsored by the FADE and DALE Foundations with vendor speed-dating-style demonstrations, raffles and information for state and national examinations, scholarships and student support services
- Saturday, April 23: all day professional development with speakers from OSAP discussing the new federal standards for OSHA compliance in the morning and facilitated round-table discussions for educators in the afternoon
- Sunday morning, April 24: members-only CADAT Business Meeting and voting members engagement, officer transition, presentation from Dental Board Enforcement Chief Teresa Lane and updates on regulatory and statutory activity

To download the "EarlyBird" conference registration packet with a schedule of events to date, [please click here](#), or visit the CADAT website at www.CADAT.org.

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CADAT Educators Requested for Conference Roundtables



With roundtables being the most requested event for the upcoming conference, our President is asking for CADAT members who are interested in helping facilitate at the conference to step forward and volunteer! Lots of great ideas and suggestions have been topics for roundtables in the past and those who wish to help bring them to the forefront again are welcome to participate.

If you are not able to help facilitate but do have ideas on roundtable topics, let us know! Please submit your topic ideas and/or willingness to volunteer as a facilitator in an email to liagagliardi@pasadena.edu.

New CADAT Website and URL Launched: www.cadat.org



As reported in the last eBulletin, the current CADAT website was to be replaced with a new system. We are pleased to report that the new CADAT website is now up and running.

CADAT.org has replaced **CADAT.info** as our new URL address. Recognizing this is a big change, we will do everything possible to redirect users from .info to the new .org address until all users become accustomed to the new address.

Business Office News

Please note that the physical address of the Association is a shared address with the Foundation in Folsom and a new mailing address has been established in Southern California for future mailings. Currently, all CADAT membership applications and conference registrations will be mailed to the Folsom address for processing through the end of conference season. Both the physical address and the new mailing address will be indicated on the new CADAT membership cards issued this season with all new and renewing member applications.

There are now two phone numbers that members and parties of interest may use to contact CADAT. The physical office phone number in Folsom is (916) 357-6681 and should be used for membership processing and conference registration purposes. For those wishing to leave a message for a volunteer Board member, the number is (626) 775-7554.

We apologize for the ongoing process of change as we continue to transfer business operations and responsibilities from our Executive Director to our volunteer leadership; we want to be sure to emphasize a smooth seamless transition without service disruption during our membership and conference seasons. Your patience is greatly appreciated.

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New CADAT Facebook and LinkedIn Platforms:



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Please check out these social forums for CADAT updated and information.

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