**Responses to Question A-K, ABCD Board Application**

Submitted by Brenda Kay Jennings, DDS

1. **Why are you applying for this position?**

At the present time I am serving the AACD as a member of the ABCD for a one year term. I have also enjoyed serving on the Written Exam Committee and as an Accreditation Examiner. I have appreciated the opportunity to serve the AACD in these areas.

I am very passionate about the practice of dentistry. I strive to do my best at all times and am thankful to be associated with others in the AACD that share that same passion. It is my desire to continue that same passion I have for dentistry and extend it in a leadership role by serving another term on the ABCD.

1. **Have you served on boards in the past? If so, what have you learned from this experience?**

Yes, I have served on the board of the American Orthodontic Society, the YMCA, and the Chamber of Commerce in the city where my practice was located.

I have appreciated the opportunity to serve on the ABCD for the past year. It is an eye-opening experience to know that you are helping make decisions that will guide the organization in the direction that will most benefit the membership. We want the members of the AACD to have confidence in our actions as Board members to continue to grow the organization.

**c) We are interested in learning about your leadership skills and organizational style. Tell us what we could expect and how you work with others. Be specific as possible.**

Generally when I start a new task, I will make an overall assessment to determine the involvement of the project and how many people it will take to complete the assignment. As a group we can assess the project and determine objectives and goals and start suggesting preliminary solutions to work towards our goal. Individual assignments are addressed and then I try to oversee each individual as they work on their issues of the overall task. We come together as a group again and present the solutions and discuss each one to determine that all our objectives and goals of the original task will be satisfied with our individual efforts.

I feel it is important to allow individuals to have a portion of the responsibility towards the overall project. It helps to build their confidence and allows them to feel a sense of accomplishment to the overall group.

**d) Serving the AACD requires people to take on projects and see them to completion, often working with others to accomplish specific goals. Tell us about your accomplishments and approach to fulfilling obligations.**

In my own day to day life I am very particular about making sure that I take on only those projects that I know I can give my full attention and see them through to completion. If it is a task that others can help me with I will try to select the proper person or persons that will help me succeed in getting the task completed.

Obviously, one of my biggest accomplishments has been receiving the Accreditation with the AACD. I personally feel that is has made me a better dentist and I can provide my patients with the best care in Cosmetic Dentistry.

**e) The AACD offers our members a superb opportunity to form friendships which could be brought into conflict when policy decisions or approaches must be addressed. Tell us about how you might balance those friendships when policy or ethical issues create such a conflict.**

I have made new and lasting friendships while being in various leadership roles for the AACD. During meetings when we experience differences of opinion, we very systematically figure out the proper answers and everyone comes to an agreement without conflict. We are all here to do the best we can and to fulfill our commitment to supporting the AACD. It has been my experience that no one considers the differences of opinions as a conflict and certainly not an issue that carries over after dissolution of the problem.

**f) What do you bring to this position that is unique or distinctive? How will you make a difference?**

I am focused on being the best I can be and helping others find that same passion when it comes to cosmetic dentistry and supporting the AACD. The Accreditation is an elite status and I want to help others experience the same feeling that I have being an Accredited Member of the AACD. I feel strongly about maintaining the credential at the highest standard because this is what sets us apart from other “Cosmetic” dentists. I am willing to share my time and experience to help anyone at any time develop their own passion for cosmetic dentistry.

**g) Please** give **us an idea of where you see your interests and expertise supporting the advancement of the AACD Strategic plan and reflecting an alignment with the Academy’s core purpose.**

My thoughts and ideas have always been to be able to explain the values of the AACD and the expertise of its membership to the consumer. All cosmetic dentists are not the same and we want our patient base to know and understand what it means being a member of the AACD and pursuing the Accreditation. Most of my leadership roles in the AACD are directly related to the Accreditation credential.

**h) Ultimately, the purpose of serving the AACD is to support our membership. Tell us how you see yourself relating to the membership and forming a bridge between the Board and our members.**

Helping members understand the idea behind the AACD organization and being available to answer questions or concerns they may experience. I feel, we as leading members should be more available to members for questions, concerns and/or their ideas pertaining to the AACD. I will be helping reach out to New Members in their first year of membership with the AACD and trying to answer questions and encouraging them to pursue the Accreditation.

1. **Please list any leadership courses or webinars taken. Leadership training is highly recommended.**

Throughout my career I have taken many management courses which contained some areas of leadership to help with my office and to be able to set good examples to my staff. I have not taken a formal course in “Leadership”.

**j) Wha*t* else should we know in order to consider you as an applicant for this position*?***

I will continue to work very hard to promote the AACD in the various decisions that are brought to the Board. I will utilize my own experience in the AACD to help develop new ideas and suggestions to carry forward to the various committees within the AACD. I will continue to encourage others to become involved in the AACD, and to help maintain the high standards of the Accreditation credential.

**k) Has any dental licensing board taken adverse action against your license or is there any action pending? If yes, please explain**

No

**l) Have you ever been convicted of a felony or are there any charges pending or under investigation?**

No