

2019 Application for BOD University Position or General Member Position.
John R. Calamia DMD
QUESTIONS:

a. Why are you applying for this position?

I have applied for this position because I believe that there are still questions that some members of our two main Boards, the BOD and the ABCD, have in regards to the value of the AACD /University / Lab / Corporate Relationship. This became painfully evident during this past year 2018 – 2019 where the BOD was conflicted in considering a by-laws change trying to shrink the size of the BOD for what amounted to an ad hoc committee’s recommendation to do so. They felt that this would decrease the cost in administration as well as make decision making more streamlined. While I understood that argument and considered the need to meet some of that committee’s recommendations I was able to present my case that shrinking to the number they were considering would significantly alter the representation on the BOD to at least one of the so called organizational members (University, corporate, Lab). Cool heads prevailed and I was able to provide a compromise that the Board was able to provide a united vote that passed easily at the annual meeting.

Recently that same thinking is again raising its head with members of both boards again voicing concerns that the cost of the University programs might not be providing a sufficient Return on Investment. I am very concerned that if I do not run for a second term of my current position as University Representative that a “new university representative” might not be able to present the case that the AACD NEEDS to keep open that lifeline of young members. I am concerned that a few well-meaning but uninformed individuals that just do not see the value of a strong investment in our youthful members could easily wash away the work I have given so much of my time for over the past 15 years.

I believe I am the candidate that is best suited to fill the University position for the next 2 Years and I would like the opportunity to leave the AACD Board with the best plans I can to insure the organization will thrive for years to come. The individuals that we have been grooming to take on the responsibility are not yet experienced enough to provide the leadership this next two years will demand.

b) Have you served on the boards in the past? If so, what have you learned from this experience?

I have served on 13 Boards and with 13 AACD Presidents:

University Representative May 2003 - April 2007 (2 Terms)

Presidents Malone, Adelson, Davis, Zase

General Member Representative May 2008 - April 2010 (1 Term)

Presidents Bernstein, Sesseman

University Representative May 2011 – April 2016 (2 Terms)

Presidents: Sullivan, Goodlin, Ringer, Hastings, Bassett

University Representative May 2018 - Present (Serving 1 Term)

Presidents Reynolds, and Bakeman

I am one of the most experienced members of the AACD Board of Directors. I believe that the AACD can depend on me to listen to all sides of an argument and then think globally as to what the implications of any decision might be both short term and long term with the best interests of the AACD in mind.

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 as specific as possible.

It is not enough to just have caring individuals as our leaders. We also need talented individuals that have the skills needed to identify what is best **for our organization** and also to take on the responsibility to try to have our fellow board members buy into those ideas. This is done by **listening carefully** to the arguments presented and **thinking** long and hard, **not on the short term** effect the decision will have, but instead on the **more global repercussions** of our decisions on AACD now and in the future.

I manage this duty by doing due diligence in researching what we currently have and what we could have. The AACD has invested a great deal of time in developing me over the past 15 years into a Board Member that is not afraid to voice his opinion but does not force that opinion on others. I am not too stubborn to listen to what my colleagues have to say and I am not surprised that sometimes their arguments alter my thinking. At the end of the day I have respected the actions of my colleagues and ask respect for my honest opinions. **Protecting this right is to me, “providing great leadership”.**

As one reads through even my pared down CV one of the areas, in which I am most proud, is my authorship of articles and texts. I think that category speaks very highly as to my informational management style. I may not at times seem very organized but my **“written end product”** is more often than not, **of the highest quality**. As to my people management style I only ask those around me to give their best effort to accomplish our organizational goals and never slight someone for their true efforts. For those that neglect their duties I just try not to depend upon them but I do make it clear what **my expectations for an end product**.

My tenure as a past BOD has taught me some very important lessons about better communication skills and I know this will allow me to better serve the board and our membership. I find when I write things out I am more organized and able to communicate my feelings on issues. I often present a White Paper at school that details not only what steps are taken in dental procedures but also why they are taken. I tried this approach with great success this past year and although some saw this as an unusual way to communicate, it proved to be very helpful in providing important arguments that were not initially taken into consideration. We have very talented people in our leadership and I hope that they will always see me as a help not a hindrance in establishing what is best for AACD.

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.

I have worked under 13 different presidents of AACD on the BOD. During that time I have seen and been personally involved in many of the decisions we have come to realize as catapulting AACD from a fine organization to one that is world recognized not only by our doctor and lab tech colleagues but also by other organizations, organized dentistry, and the public at large. We need to continue in that direction. I am proud to say that I have always worked well with the boards I have been a part of and feel that those that I have worked with would describe me as a board member that is able to identify important goals and have the wherewithal to provide answers that help accomplish those goals.

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.

Simply said, "Respect your colleagues opinion, as you would like your own opinion respected and I guarantee your friendships will not suffer!" Emotions should take a back seat to an exploration of what the other opinions are and seeking out conversation will hopefully diffuse emotion if carried out without hidden agendas.

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

I believe I am one of the oldest candidates for the open board position. With age, usually comes an inherent wisdom. I believe that the membership of our organization needs leaders that will uphold the main foundations of our society and will do so in an ethical and unbiased way. It is also important that leadership should be recognized for their accomplishments, as this will reflect back on the organization. I bring to the Board the rare combination of one who is a **researcher**, an **educator**, an **author**, and a **clinician**. I can walk into any of these settings and feel comfortable that I can fit in with each these disciplines. As such I can act as a liaison between AACD Leadership and each of these components in our profession. I hope that the committee will find that I have a **national and international recognition** in our field, and that I possess those qualities in leadership that are **so often are pointed to** in a judgment as to the worth of membership in an organization.

I am well aware of our core values. Setting a standard of excellence through continuous education has been the story of my life. In school, in research, and in my private practice, acting with integrity and accountability has always been my cornerstone and that which both I and my wife subscribe but have also been careful to pass on to both of our children.

Lastly, I bring a work ethic that I am proud of. The seriousness with which I hold a position on the board still leaves plenty of room in enjoying and sharing in the camaraderie, I have always been a part of in my tenure as a board member.

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.

I feel that I can work with the leadership of the GNYACD leadership in helping design a new model for AACD Affiliation.

I believe I can look carefully at the University AACD Relationship and cut costs where there will not be a mutual understanding as to the needs of both groups without a breakdown of what has been very successful as of late.

I believe that the University Relations Committee can come up with some ideas that will satisfy our budgetary needs but will still allow for increased interest on both sides to be supportive.

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.

I

We need to strengthen our alliances with organizations like:

The American Academy of Orthodontics

The American Academy of Implant Dentistry

The Academy of Laser Dentistry.

Each of the above groups offers a credential in their discipline and solidifying the commonalities of the credentials of the members of our existing alliance of organizations need to be a priority.

Common threads of each of our credentials might be agreed upon without jeopardizing the autonomy of each of these disciplines. These common threads might even parallel some of those basic requirements of existing specialties (examples written exams, case presentations, and continued education). This will make it very difficult for State Boards to ignore the value of our credentials and may make it more obvious that our intent is to help the consumer be aware of the advanced training one brings to the table when presenting our credentials.

II.

We as the developers of what we believe to be strong and relevant credentials should continue to hold ourselves to high standards and back each other by identifying our commonalities. I believe those that really seek to inform and thereby protect the consumer, will eventually stop painting all organizations with the same broad brush of "irrelevant - if not accredited by ADA", but instead these state boards or other entities may begin to enumerate those benchmarks in the credentials of the members of this alliance and hold them up as the standard to be met by all. While freedom of speech is something to be respected and preserved for all, "what one has to say" is just as important in getting final recognition.

I have been very mindful of our attempts to form a credential that might be looked upon as providing the foundation of a Specialty in Aesthetics and I have begun to lay the groundwork on Courses given in Dental Schools that could work hand in Hand with AACD in providing what is necessary to get us over the existing walls in the way of this goal.

III.

I can say that NY has one of the strongest Regional Affiliates in the Greater New York Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry. I am very close to their leadership and they have been great in allowing our students and select faculty to join in their meetings. NYU at GNYACD with Dr. Tarnow.

IV.

We need to creat more dental school study clubs that are AACD affiliated so that when they have graduated and have become successful dentists they will become part of our future membership.

V.

Our board members need to identify themselves at our and other organization meetings so that we can infulence further membership cross-polenization. Eample: Scout GNYDM

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

I am constantly taking leadership courses at NYU that speak to how to treat our Faculty Students, and Staff. We as board members have been exposed to leadership development courses at the combined board strategic meetings.

j. What else should we know in order to consider you as an applicant for this position?

I think there is plenty of History to indicate what you get in this Candidate.

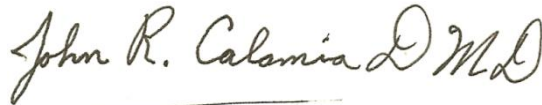
I do hope that this history speaks kindly of my candidacy.

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? If yes, please explain.

No.



Dr. John R. Calamia
Name

Signature

Nov.30th , 2019

Date