

Houston Section  
American Association for Dental Research

## **CONSTITUTION**

### **ARTICLE I. NAME**

This organization is named: The American Association for Dental Research the Houston Section herein referred to as the AADR-H or the Section.

### **ARTICLE II. PURPOSE**

The Section has been established to promote the mission and objectives of the American Association for Dental Research (AADR) on a local level, in abidance with the rules and regulations of that organization. The foremost purpose of this Section is to encourage research collaboration, support, and represent the oral health research community of Houston with the goal of contributing to the advancement of oral health worldwide.

### **ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP**

#### **Section 1. ACTIVE MEMBERS**

Persons wishing to become a new Active Member of the AADR-H must receive one supporting signature by an active member and be approved by a majority vote of the active members present at any regular meeting of the Section or via email vote.

#### **Section 2. STUDENT MEMBERS**

A Student Member of the AADR-H must be a student in good standing, currently enrolled in a locally recognized academic institution, does not hold an academic appointment and shows an interest in dental research. The student must be elected by a majority vote of the active members present at any regular meeting of the Section, or by email; dues paying members of the UT Dental Branch Student Research Group (UTSRG) are automatically members of AADR-H.

Individuals may be classified at the Student level for no more than 8 years. The Student Member shall have all the rights and privileges of membership but shall have no vote other than the President of the UTSRG who shall have a vote.

### **Section 3. LIFE MEMBERS**

Any member of the AADR-H who has been an active member of either the Houston Section, or the parent organization, for 25 years and has retired from active clinical/research activities is automatically eligible upon request to be elevated to life member in the Houston Section. Elevation to life member requires a majority vote of the active members present at any regular meeting of the Section, or by email.

### **Section 4. HONORARY MEMBERS**

For outstanding research contributions in dentistry or in fields related to dentistry, an individual may be elected to honorary membership in the Section. Nominations shall be made in writing by two active members at any regular meeting and election shall be at the following meeting by a unanimous vote of the active members present, or by email. Any two active members may call for a written ballot, otherwise the election shall be informal.

### **Section 5. TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP**

Membership may be terminated by a member upon delivery of a written notice to the Secretary-Treasurer of that member's resignation.

Members are terminated from membership after 90 days of non-payment of dues after appropriate notice.

## **ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS**

### **Section 1. OFFICERS**

Officers are elected for 2 year terms. The officers of the AADR-H shall be a President, President-Elect, Immediate Past President, Secretary-Treasurer and Councilor.

### **Section 2. DUTIES**

The (A) President shall (i) work closely with the general officers and members to establish the overall goals of the Section. (ii) be knowledgeable of all association governing documents, and ensure that the association operates accordingly (iii) presides at official meetings prepares meeting agendas, and ensures that valid voting procedures are used.

(B) The President-Elect shall preside at official meetings in the absence of the President and work closely with the President in fulfilling the overall goals of the Section and assume the office of President at the end of the 2 year term.

(C) Secretary-Treasurer shall be responsible for the fiscal well being of the Section, including directing the budget process, collecting dues, reporting to the national office, ensuring a complete accounting of all monies, keeping election records and call for officer elections according to terms.

(D) Councilor shall represent Section at General Session of the annual AADR Council meeting. The Councilor shall provide an oral or written report to the Section at the first local meeting following the yearly national meeting.

(E) Immediate Past President shall serve in an advisory capacity to the officers as needed.

## **Section 2. ELECTIONS**

Ending term officer vacancies shall be filled by election for the ensuing term by a majority vote of active members before the next academic year. Official duties start at the beginning of the academic year. Unexpected vacancies shall be filled by special election, by majority vote at a regular meeting, or by email ballot.

## **ARTICLE V. MEETINGS**

The Houston Section shall meet at least once a year for a general meeting. Additional meetings shall be determined by consensus of the officers.

## **ARTICLE VI. FINANCES**

### **Section 1. DUES**

Active Members shall be assessed for local dues, and all monies so collected shall be the property of the Houston Section exclusively. The amount of the local dues shall be determined by a majority vote of all members present at a meeting, or by email ballot.

## **Section 2. EXPENDITURES**

The Secretary-Treasurer is designated to represent the local organization in all financial matters. He/she is authorized to collect and disburse monies as ordered by the Officers of the Section and Active Members shall be notified of expenditures greater than two-hundred dollars .

## **Section 3. REPORTS**

A report and audit of the financial affairs of the Section shall be made annually, at the same meeting as is designated for the Councilor's report.

## **Section 4. SCHOLARSHIPS**

The Section will support student research in the form of scholarships.

## **ARTICLE VII. BY-LAWS**

By-laws may be proposed at any meeting of the local Section and may be adopted at the same meeting by a two-thirds vote of active members present and voting.

## **ARTICLE VIII. QUORUM**

One third of the active membership shall constitute a quorum.

## **ARTICLE IX. AMENDMENTS**

### **Section 1. CONSTITUTION**

A proposed amendment of this Constitution must be presented in writing at a regular meeting, or by email. After due notification by the Secretary to all active members, the amendment shall be voted upon by ballot. The proposed amendment shall become part of the Constitution when at least a majority of the entire active membership of the Section votes for its adoption.

## **Section 2. BY-LAWS**

Amendments of the By-laws may be proposed at any meeting of the Section and may be adopted at the same meeting by a two-thirds vote of the active members present and voting, or by email ballot.

### **BY-LAWS.**

#### **SECTION 1. MEMBERSHIP**

All members of the Section shall have the privilege of attending meetings of the Section, and participate in discussion or presentation of original dental research.

A Member in arrears on dues for more than one year shall cease to be a member of the Section until the arrears shall have been paid, when she/he may be reinstated through the new member application process. The Treasurer shall keep such individuals informed of their membership status.

#### **SECTION 2. DUES**

Section dues for the active members shall be determined by the officers and approved by a majority of those present at a regularly scheduled meeting. Payment is due January 1st for one year membership. Members who pay for multiple years (maximum of 5 years is allowed), are not subject to new dues increases until their next payment is due.

Life members and Honorary Members of the Section shall not be required to pay dues to the Section.

#### **SECTION 3. COMMITTEES**

Special Committees may be appointed and charged by the President for specific functions as the need arises.