**PREAMBLE TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STUDENT NATIONAL DENTAL ASSOCIATION**

The Student National Dental Association originated from concerned dental students at

Meharry Medical College in 1970. Over fifty years after the inception and creation of the

National Dental Association, these students at Meharry organized and put together the

foundations of what would become the largest minority student dental organization in the United

States today.

The lack of contact between minority dentists and students of dentistry was also an

impetus to form the SNDA. Because minority students of dentistry are quite frequently

influenced by NDA members in their respective communities, it was thought that a more formal

relationship between these dentists and the students was needed.

In a letter from then Vice-President of Student Government (Reuben Warren) to Dr.

James W. Holley III (President of the NDA) the desire to start a "student chapter of the NDA"

was communicated. At the Mid-Winter meeting March 7-8, 1970 the Student National Dental

Association was voted into existence.

Since these humble beginnings, of the 21,000 dental students in the nation's fifty-four

(54) dental schools, approximately 1,100 of these students are from an African-American,

Hispanic, Native American or other minority background and of these, close to 750 are currently

SNDA members. The U.S. dental schools began to train minority students in greater numbers in

the early 1970's. Since that time the SNDA has become a supportive mechanism for minority

dental students in hopes of establishing and providing a national network of communication

among minority people as defined by the Department of Health and Human Services. The

students, although presently small in number, have begun to increase collective efforts to

demonstrate the need to have an organization that represents the minority dental student.

**ARTICLE I: NAME**

The name of this association shall be the Student National Dental Association, hereafter referred

to as "SNDA".

**ARTICLE II: OBJECTIVES**

The objectives of SNDA shall be as follows:

Section 1. To promote and encourage an increase in minority enrollment in all dental schools.

Section 2. To be committed to the improvement of the delivery of dental health to all people,

with an emphasis on minorities and/or the underserved.

**Section**3., To provide time and skill in assisting those programs within the greater community

which require some measure of dental expertise.

**Section 4.** To contribute to the welfare of dental students.

Section 5. To educate and involve its members in the social, moral, and ethical obligations of the

profession of dentistry.

Section 6. To promote a viable academic and social environment which is conducive to the

mental health of minority students.

**ARTICLE** III: **ORGANIZATION**

**Section**1., Incorporation: SNDA is a non-profit corporation. If this corporation shall be dissolved

at any time, no part of its funds or property shall be distributed to, or among its members. After

payment of all indebtedness of the corporation, its surplus funds and properties shall be used for

minority dental education and dental research in such a manner as the governing body of SNDA

may determine.

Section 2.. Membership: The membership of SNDA shall consist of all dental students and other

persons whose qualifications shall be established in the By-laws.

**Section**3., Regional Components: Geographic regions encompassing one or more chapters shall

be defined within the By-laws to provide a means for an equitable representation of members on

SNDA's Executive Board. Each regional component shall be entitled to elect a Regional

Coordinator.

**Section 4.** School Chapters: Each dental school shall be eligible for a charter as a chapter of

SNDA as defined in the By-laws. Each chapter shall be entitled to at least one delegate in

SNDA's House of Delegates. Chapter membership shall consist of the active members of each

school.

**ARTICLE** IV: **GOVERNMENT**

Section 1. House of Delegates: The responsibility for determining the policies of SNDA shall be

vested in a House of Delegates whose powers and duties shall be prescribed in the By-laws. The

number and method of selecting delegates shall also be set forth in the By-laws.

**Section**2. Executive Board: The responsibility for the administration and management of all

SNDA programs and activities shall be vested in the Executive Board. The voting members of

the board shall be the Director of Regional Coordinators and elected officers. The President

shall act as Board Chairperson. When acting as Board Chairperson, the President's right to vote

shall be confined to breaking tie votes. The Immediate Past-President shall act as an advisor to

the Board without the right to vote.

**Section**3. Elected Officers: The elected officers of the SNDA shall be President-Elect, Vice-

President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer-Elect, Representative to the

NDA House of Delegates, Representative to the NDA Board of Trustees, and Director of

Regional Coordinators.

**Section 4.** Appointed Officers: At its discretion, the Executive Board may appoint an Executive

Director who shall be considered an officer of SNDA without the right to vote.

Section 5. Committees:

A. Executive Committee: The officers of the SNDA shall constitute the

Executive Committee of the Executive Board. The powers and duties of the

Committee shall be prescribed in the By-laws and the rules of the Board.

B. Standing Committees of the House: SNDA standing committees are: Budget

and Finance, Constitution, Grievance, Elections, Special Projects, and Scholarship. The

House of Delegates shall establish additional committees to assist in carrying out

business at House meetings as necessary.

C. Board Standing Committees: The Executive Board shall establish committees

to assist in carrying cut its business at board meetings.

D. SNDA Committees: The President shall establish committees to carry out

programs and projects approved by the Executive Board.

E. Chairperson and Membership of Committees: The President shall be entitled to appoint

the chairperson and members of all committees except the Executive Committee and the

other standing committees, excluding the Special Projects Committee.

**ARTICLE V: MEETINGS**

The House of Delegates shall meet at least once during each calendar year. The Executive

Committee shall be called and conducted in accordance with pertinent provisions of the By-laws.

Immediately following adjournment of the annual meeting of the House of Delegates, the newly

elected Executive Committee shall meet. In succeeding years, the Committee shall schedule

one of its meetings to immediately follow the House of Delegates meeting. The Committee shall

determine the date, place and extent of its annual meetings. The Executive Board shall meet at

the call of the President.

**ARTICLE VI: RESIDUAL AUTHORITY**

All powers and responsibilities not specified in the Constitution and By-laws shall reside in the

House of Delegates.

**ARTICLE VII: AMENDMENTS**

The Constitution may be amended by two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of the House of

Delegates- delegates present and voting at a properly called meeting at which a quorum is

present.

**ARTICLE VIII: QUORUM**

No action of the House of Delegates, the Executive Board or the Executive Committee shall be

valid unless a quorum is present. A quorum shall consist of a simple majority of the House of

Delegates, the Executive Board, and the Executive Committee.

**ARTICLE IX: RATIFICATION OF THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS**

This Constitution and By-laws shall become effective upon ratification by two-thirds (2/3)

affirmative vote of the delegates at their next properly called meeting, providing a quorum is

present. Each delegate shall receive official notification of scheduled meetings at least thirty

(30) days prior to meeting.

**BY-LAWS**

**PART I: MEMBERSHIP**

Section 1. Active Membership: Active Membership in the SNDA shall be available to all

undergraduate dental students. Recognition as an active member will be dependent upon the

good financial standing of the undergraduate dental student as determined by Part 1, Section 7 of

the By-laws. Active membership may be extended for only one calendar year beyond the year of

graduation.

Section 2. Associate membership: Associate membership shall be made available to graduate

dental students, dental school faculty members, and other students at dental health education

research facilities who have an interest in the goals of the SNDA.

Section 3. Honorary Membership: Sustaining membership shall be made available to those

organizations and individuals who show an exceptional interest in the goals of the SNDA.

Section 4. Additional Membership Categories: The House of Delegates shall have the authority

to establish additional membership categories not in conflict with membership categories

specified in these By-laws.

Section 5. Privileges of Membership:

A. Active Membership: Each active member shall be entitled to all privileges of SNDA

including participating in the, election of their delegate or delegates and the right to hold office and any appointments. The right to elect the Regional Coordinator shall be vested in the delegates in their respective region.

B. Other Membership Categories: Members other than active members shall not be

entitled to hold office or vote. They shall not be entitled to attend meetings of the House of Delegates and may receive such SNDA publications as the Executive Board deems appropriate.

Section 6. Period of Membership: Period of membership shall be from September 1st of one

calendar year until September 1st of the following year.

**Section**7., Membership Dues: Dues for all categories of membership shall be determined by

the House of Delegates. Dues as determined by the House of Delegates become due and payable

to the SNDA Treasurer on September 1st of each calendar year. The deadline for dues payment

is November 15th of the same :year.

**Section 8.** Resignation from and Loss of Membership: Resignation may be accomplished by

tendering a written notice to the Executive Board and shall entail forfeiture of all dues paid to

SNDA. Failure to pay annual dues by November 15th of each year may result in automatic loss

of membership.

**PART II: CHAPTERS**

Section 1., Chapter Qualifications: Each existing dental school in the United States, including the District Columbia and Puerto Rico, is entitled to establish a chapter of SNDA. A new dental school qualifies to charter a chapter of SNDA one month after its first class of first year students is admitted.

Section 2., Grant of Charter: Within one month following adjournment of the first meeting of the SNDA House of Delegates the Secretary shall issue to each chapter a charter signed by the President and Secretary. Additional chapters may be chartered after satisfying the requirement of Section 1 of this part. The Executive Board shall prescribe the charter language.

**Section**3. Suspension of Charter: A chapter can be suspended by two-thirds (2/3) vote of all delegates if suspended to be in violation of this constitution and By-laws of the SNDA or any conduct deemed unethical by the House of Delegates. During the suspension, the chapter and delegates will not be allowed to participate in the activities of the SNDA. The status of suspension will be maintained until an investigation is completed by the House of Delegates. The investigation is not to exceed a time period past the next meeting of the House of Delegates.

Section 4. Revocation of Charter: The following shall be considered causes for revocation of a charter:

A. Refusing membership in the SNDA to an eligible applicant on the basis of race, religion, color, sex, national origin, or political belief.

B. Violating the Constitution and By-laws of SNDA.

C. Violating any rules or procedures for chapters established by the House of Delegates. The House of Delegates shall prescribe the procedure for holding hearings on charges that may result in revocation of a charter. Revocation of a charter will not be valid unless two- thirds (2/3) of a quorum of all delegates shall vote for such revocation at a properly called meeting of the House of Delegates. A chapter whose charter only if it shows clearly that it no longer is guilty of conduct described in the lettered paragraphs of this section.

**Section 5.** Reinstating Revoked Charters: A chapter will only be reinstated if it clearly shows that it is no longer guilty of conduct described in the lettered paragraph of Section 4. The chapter may submit a request to reinstate its charter to the House of Delegates. A two-thirds (2/3) vote of the House of Delegates is required to reinstate a revoked charter.

**Section 6.** Chapters in Good Standing:. The following shall be requirements of all chapters to be eligible for consideration as a chapter in good standing:

A. A chapter will be in good standing when over 50% of the current recognized members are active members as determined by Part 1, Section 1 of these By-laws.

B. A chapter will be in good standing as long as its charter is not suspended or revoked.

6.

**PART III: HOUSE OF DELEGATES**

**Section 1.** Delegates. Each chapter shall be entitled to one delegate on the basis of its status as a

chapter in good standing. Each chapter shall be entitled to an additional delegate for every

twenty (20) active members. The total number of chapter delegates shall not exceed three (3).

Section 2., Alternate Delegates: Each chapter shall be entitled to one alternate delegate for each

delegate. An alternate delegate shall be authorized to act as a delegate only upon written request

to the SNDA Corresponding Secretary from the delegate being replaced, or upon written petition

to the SNDA Corresponding Secretary from the majority of the chapter's delegates if the

delegate sought to be replaced is unable to give authorization to an alternate delegate due to

physical or other reasons.

Section 3. Certification of Delegates and Alternate Delegates: Each chapter shall file with the

SNDA Corresponding Secretary via registration form at least sixty (60) days before the first day

of a properly called meeting of the House of Delegates the names of that chapter's delegates.

The SNDA Corresponding Secretary shall mail to each named delegate or alternate credentials

certifying their standing.

Section 4. Duties and powers of Delegates:

A. Election of Officers

B. Establishment of standing committees

C. Adoption of SNDA's annual budget.

D. Determination of policies governing SNDA.ermination

E. Adoption and amendment of this Constitution and By-laws.

F. Establishment of its own standing committees.

G. Suspension or revocation of a chapter's charter as set forth in part II, section 4

of the By-laws.

H. Performance of all duties imposed by law or traditionally required of the

association's governing bodies.

**Section 5.,** Meetings: The annual meeting of the House of Delegates shall be part of the

SNDA's annual meeting. The Executive Board shall determine the dates and location of annual

meetings, including special meetings of the House.

Section 6. Registration: Any person having an active part in the annual SNDA convention must

be officially registered with the convention.

**PART** IV: ELECTIONS

Section 1. Only an active member who is registered at the meeting of the election site and

registered as a student at a dental school may be. elected an officer or a regional coordinator of

SNDA. This registration should be in effect during the entire term of office. In the event that an

officer is no longer registered at a dental school during the term of office, his or her office shall

be considered vacated and a new officer shall be appointed by the Executive Board. Students

running for President-Elect and Treasurer-Elect positions should be rising second or third year

students due to the fact that these positions are two year terms. If a President for the ensuing

year or Treasurer for the ensuing year is to be elected, he or she may be a rising second, third, or

fourth year student.

Section 2., The Executive Committee shall have the power to act accordingly in the event of any

vacancy occurring among the offices of the Executive Board. The Regional coordinators shall

be replaced by an SNDA member from the region in which the vacancy occurred.

Section 3. The election of the officers of the SNDA shall be held during the annual meeting,

once every calendar year. The Regional Coordinator shall be elected according to Part V,

Section 4 (c) of the By-laws.

Section 4. An Election Committee shall be established on the first day of business and shall be

approved by the House of Delegates. The Election Committee shall be limited to five (5)

members but no less than three (3) members, each from a different region. Members of the

Election Committee are not allowed to run for an office while serving on the Election

Committee. All candidates seeking SNDA Executive office should submit a formal application

by the end of the second day of business of the House of Delegates. The Election Committee

shall present to the House of Delegates a formal ballot of candidates. Additional nominations

may be made from the floor of the House of Delegates. These nominations are to be

accompanied by a petition approved by at least two (2) delegates from different chapters. Each

nominee shall address the House of Delegates outlining his or her qualifications for office. At

least four (4) hours shall be allotted between the candidates speeches and the voting process to

allow the delegates time to weigh each candidates qualifications. Voting shall be by secret

ballot, each delegate having one (1) vote. Votes will be tallied by the Election Committee with

the Election Chairperson presiding as outlined in Part IV of the Constitution. The candidate

receiving a simple majority of the votes cast shall be elected. Absentee ballots will be allowed.

The absentee ballots must have a receiving party and deadline as established by the election

committee. In the event of a run-off, the right to cast another absentee vote is automatically

forfeited. In the event of a tie the President-Elect shall cast the deciding vote. Following the

Nominating Committee's election results report, the delegates from each region shall adjourn for

the election of their Regional Coordinators. Following the election of Regional Coordinators,

the House of Delegates shall re-convene.

**Section**5. No person shall serve in more than one (1) of the following offices simultaneously:

President, Vice-President, President-Elect, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary,

Treasurer, Regional Coordinator, Representative to the NDA House of Delegates, Representative

to the NDA Board of Trustees, and Director of Regional Coordinators. No candidate may

simultaneously run for more than one office of the Executive Committee at once.

Section 6. Executive Committee members and Regional Coordinators may be re-elected in

succeeding years.

PART V: **EXECUTIVE OFFICERS, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND**

**EXECUTIVE BOARD**

Section 1. Executive Officers:

A. The President shall be the official representative of the SNDA and shall be an exofficio member of all committees (without the right to vote). He or she shall preside at all meetings of the Executive Committee, Executive Board and House of Delegates. He or she shall be responsible for obtaining guest speakers for the convention. If the President is unable to fulfill his or her duties, the next highest ranking officer in the chain of command shall act in his or her behalf. The President shall serve for a period of one (1) year or until the installation of his or her successor.

B. The Vice-President shall carry out the duties assigned by the President and the

Executive Committee and shall serve as chairperson of the Constitution Committee. The Vice-President shall be responsible for the composition and registration information and guidelines as well as the meeting schedule and agenda for the annual convention. As chairperson of the Constitution Committee he or she shall also be responsible for updating the Constitution as necessary. If the Vice-President is unable to fulfill his or her duties, a presidential appointee, approved by a simple majority of the Executive Committee, shall act in his or her behalf. The Vice-President shall serve for a period of one (1) year or until installation of his or her successor.

C. The Corresponding Secretary shall maintain a line of communication between the

Executive Committee, the Executive Board, the House of Representatives and the general body of the SNDA. The Corresponding Secretary shall be responsible for mailing all correspondence approved by the Executive Committee. If the Corresponding Secretary is unable to fulfill his or her duties a presidential appointee, approved by a simple majority of the Executive Committee, shall act in his or her behalf. The Corresponding Secretary shall serve for a period of one (1) year or until installation of his or her successor.

D. The Recording Secretary shall record the minutes at all meetings of the Executive

Committee, Executive Board, and House of Delegates. The Recording Secretary shall also serve as chairperson of the Elections Committee, be responsible for preparing all publications of SNDA, and update the SNDA directory. If the Recording Secretary is unable to fulfill his or her duties, a presidential appointee, approved by a simple majority of the Executive Committee, shall act in his or her behalf. The Recording Secretary shall serve for a period of one (1) year or until installation of his or her successor.

E. The Treasurer shall manage the funds of the SNDA and shall serve as chairperson of

the Budget and Finance Committee. He or she shall also be responsible for soliciting donations from dental manufacturers and supply companies. If the Treasurer is unable to fulfill his or her duties, a presidential appointee, approved by a simple majority of the Executive Committee, shall act in his or her behalf. The Treasurer shall serve for a period of one (1) year or until installation of his or her successor.

F. The Treasurer-Elect shall be an ex-officio member of the Budget and Finance

Committee. He or she shall be responsible for learning the financial operations of SNDA,

carrying out duties assigned by the Treasurer and all fundraising activities at the annual

convention. Prior to installation as Treasurer the Treasurer-elect must demonstrate satisfactory performance in the preceding year as evidenced by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Executive Committee, excluding the Treasurer-Elect. In the event a two-thirds (2/3) vote of confidence is not obtained from the Executive Committee the Treasurer-Elect shall not ascend to the office of Treasurer. This decision will be final and will be presented to the House of Delegates. The reason for such decision may be discussed at the discretion of the said Treasurer-Elect. In the event a two-thirds (2/3) vote is not obtained from the Executive Committee, a member of the existing Executive Board will be elected by the House of Delegates by a simple majority to serve as the Treasurer for the ensuing year. If no member of the Executive Board wishes to seek the office of Treasurer, nominations may be taken from the House of Delegates for the Treasurer for the ensuing year. If the Treasurer-Elect is unable to fulfill his or her duties, a presidential appointee, approved by a simple majority of the Executive Committee, shall act in his or her behalf. The Treasurer-Elect shall serve for a period of one (1) year or until installation of his or her successor.

G. The President-Elect shall be an ex-officio member of all committees and serve as

chairperson of the Grievance Committee. The President-Elect shall be responsible for learning the operations, policies and programs of the SNDA, carrying out duties assigned by the President and maintaining the SNDA archives. Prior to installation as President the President-Elect must demonstrate satisfactory performance in the preceding year as evidenced by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Executive Committee, excluding the President-Elect. In the event a two-thirds (2/3) vote of confidence is not obtained from the Executive Committee the President-Elect shall not ascend to the office of the President. This decision will be final and will be presented to the House 'of Delegates. The reason for such decision may be discussed at the discretion of the said President-Elect. In the event a two-thirds (2/3) vote is not obtained from the Executive Committee, a member of the existing Executive Board will be elected by the House of Delegates by a simple majority to serve as the President for the ensuing year. If no member of the Executive Board wishes to seek the office of President, nominations may be taken from the House of Delegates for the President for the ensuing year. If the President-Elect is unable to *fulfill* his or her duties, a presidential appointee, approved by a simple majority of the Executive Committee, shall act in his or her place. The President-Elect shall serve for a period of'one (1) year or until installation of his or her successor.

H. Representative to the NDA House of Delegates: It shall be the duty of the

Representative to attend the meetings of the NDA House of Delegates for the express purpose of voicing concerns, proposals, and resolutions of the SNDA to the NDA House of Delegates. The Representative is to report to the SNDA Executive Committee at the end of each NDA House of Delegates Session. A final written report of all actions taken by the NDA House of Delegates is to be submitted by the Representative to the SNDA House of Delegates at the last business session of the convention. If the Representative to the NDA House of Delegates is unable to fulfill his or her duties, a presidential appointee, approved by a simple majority of the Executive Committee, shall act in his or her behalf. The Representative to the NDA House of Delegates shall serve for a period of one (1) year or until installation of his or her successor.

I. Representative to the NDA Board of Trustees: It shall be the duty of the

Representative to the NDA Board of Trustees to attend the meetings of the NDA Board

of Trustees. The Representative is responsible for voicing the concerns, proposals, and

resolutions of the SNDA to the NDA Board of Trustees throughout the year as they apply

to NDA policy. The Representative is to submit a written report covering all proceedings

of the NDA Board of Trustees transpiring throughout the calendar year at the annual

convention. If the Representative to the NDA Board of Trustees is unable to fulfill his or

her duties, a presidential appointee, approved by a simple majority of the Executive

Committee, shall act in his or her behalf. The Representative to he NDA Board of

Trustees shall serve for a period of one (1) year or until installation of successor.

J. Director of Regional Coordinators: The Director of Regional Coordinators shall be

responsible for maintaining a line of communication between the Executive Committee,

the Executive Board, and the Regional Coordinators. The Director of Regional

Coordinators shall solicit information regarding chapter concerns and activities and relay

them to the Executive Board. He or she shall also be responsible for facilitating the

organization of regional meetings, establishing charters for new chapters and shall

register all members at the annual convention. If the Director of Regional Coordinators

is unable to fulfill hi or her duties, a presidential appointee, approved by a simple

majority of the Executive Committee, shall act in his or her behalf. The Director of

Regional Coordinators shall serve for a period of one (1) year or until his or her successor

is installed.

K. Immediate Past-President: The Immediate Past-President shall serve as an ex-officio

advisor to the Executive Board without the right to vote. The Immediate Past-President

shall serve for a period of one (1) year or until installation of his or her successor.

L. Consultant(s) to the Executive Board: The Consultant to the Executive Board will

serve as an ex-officio mentor to the Executive Board without the right to vote. The

Executive Board will appoint this position. It will be at the Board's discretion to select

one or two consultants that will serve for a two-year period.

Section 2. Chain of Command

The chain of command shall be as follows: President, Vice-President, Treasurer,

Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary, Director of Regional Coordinators,

Representative to the NDA House of Delegates and Representative to the NDA Board of

Trustees, President-Elect and Treasurer-Elect in that order.

Section 3. Executive Committee:

A. Composition: The Executive Committee shall be composed of the executive officers of the SNDA as named in Article IV Section 3 & 5A.

B. Duties and Powers:

1. Assume the duties and powers of the Executive Board in emergency

situations and between meetings of the Executive Board.

2. Provide Policy recommendations to the Executive Board.

3. Initiate impeachment proceedings as they become necessary.

Section 4. Executive Board:

A. Composition: the Executive Board shall be composed of the Regional Coordinators,

Immediate Past-President, Officers, and Board Mediators (See Section 4D).

B. Qualifications: Each voting member of the Board shall be an active member of the

SNDA.

C. Regional Coordinator: Each of the regional components shall elect from its region a

Regional Coordinator by a simple majority of the votes cast by the delegates from

the region at the annual convention or at their regional meeting. The Regional

Coordinator shall be responsible for gathering information regarding concerns, activities

and membership rosters of SNDA chapters in his or her region and reporting then to

the Director of Regional Coordinators as well as disseminating information from the

Director of Regional Coordinators to the SNDA chapters in his or her region.

D. Board Mediators: Any active SNDA chapter with twenty (20) or more active,

ethnic minority members may select at their discretion an active member to serve

on the Executive Board in an ex-officio capacity for a period of one (1) year.

E. SNDA Representative to the NDA Corporate Round Table (CRT): The

Representative shall be appointed by the President and confirmed by a simple

majority vote of the SNDA Executive Board. Duties: 1) To express the interests

and concerns of the SNDA to CRT members and to encourage greater support for

programs and activities from the NDA and corporations; 2) present a SNDA budget to

the CRT when indicated; 3) relay concerns and requests from the CRT to the SNDA

Executive Board.

F. Duties and Powers:

1. Provide for the coordination and management of all SNDA activities.

2. Prepare a budget annually for submission to the House of Delegates.

3. Determine dates and locations for meetings of SNDA and the House of

Delegates.

4. Carry out all other duties and obligations normally imposed by law or tradition

upon an Executive Board of an association or corporation.

5. Establish standing committees.

6. Establish ad interim policies in emergency situations between meetings

of the House of Delegates.

7. Exercise power inherent in the managing body of an association or

corporation.

Section 5. Impeachment Proceedings: If an executive officer is found guilty of gross neglect of duties or of behaving in a manner that is deemed unethical or incongruent with SNDA policy a tender of resignation will be requested from the said officer by the SNDA Executive Board. If the officer does not voluntarily tender said resignation the Executive Board shall have the authority to remove the officer from his or her office by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of all members of the Executive Board. The officer in question shall be given full opportunity for an appeal before the House of Delegates which may overturn the decision of the Executive Board by two-thirds (2/3) vote.

**Section**6., Regional Components (Districts): The Chapters of SNDA shall be organized into 9 components to be designated Regional Districts. The Regional Districts shall be formed geographically so that each District represents a composite of contiguous states with a dental student population nearly to every other district. If Canadian dental students become eligible for Active membership in SNDA, a 10th District will be formed.

**PART VI: FINANCING**

**Section 1.,** Collection of Dues: Dues as set by the House of Delegates shall be collected by the chapters and remitted to the headquarters office of SNDA. The Executive Board shall determine the location of the headquarters office.

Section 2. Sources of Revenue: The House of Delegates shall establish policies governing the sources of revenue other than dues that shall be used to support activities of the SNDA.

**Section 3.** Approval of Budget: The Executive Board shall prepare a budget for the ensuing fiscal year with submission to the House of Delegates for approval at the annual meeting of the House prior to the beginning to the fiscal year.

**Section 4..** Expenditure of Funds: The Executive Board shall delegate authority to expend funds to appropriate officials and employees of SNDA. The authority for expenditures of non-budget items or in excess of the budget shall require advanced approval of the appropriate officials and employees of SNDA as authorized by the Executive Board.

**Section 5.** Fiscal Year: The fiscal year of SNDA shall begin September 1 and end on August 31 of each calendar year to correspond to the school year.

**PART VII: PUBLICATIONS**

**Section 1.** Types of Publications: The Executive Board shall determine what publications shall be issued and to whom they are issued. At least one publication shall be issued to the entire membership on a periodic basis when funds are available.

**Section**2. Editor's Function: The Editor shall have full editorial discretion subject only to SNDA policies and this Constitution and By-laws and shall be responsible for SNDA publications.

**PART VIII: AMENDMENTS**

Proposed amendments to these By-laws may be amended at any meeting of the House of Delegates by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the delegates present and voting, a quorum being present.

**Part IX: NON-DISCRIMINATION**

Discrimination against any individual based upon protected status, which is defined as age, ancestry, color, disability, gender identity or expression, genetic information, HIV/AIDS status, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, military status, or protected veteran status or any other basis (in accordance with Student Organization Registration and Funding guidelines) is prohibited.

 **Part X: IMPEACHMENT AND REMOVAL**

**Section 1.** Officers may be impeached and, if convicted, removed from office by a

two-thirds majority of the voting members on the basis of not fulfilling their duties as outlined in the Constitution.

**Section 2.** Members may be impeached and, if convicted, may be expelled from membership by a two-thirds majority of the voting members on the basis of not fulfilling the purpose of the organization.

**Section 3.** Advisors may be impeached and, if convicted, removed from their position by a two-thirds majority of the voting members on the basis of not fulfilling their duties as described in this Constitution.

**Section 4.** Any individual who is impeached shall be given full notice of the allegations against him/her and shall have an opportunity to respond to them.

**Section 5.** Any member of the organization may initiate impeachment proceedings.