

*Gulf Dental Students
Association
(GDSA)*



**GULF DENTAL STUDENTS
ASSOCIATION**

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Bylaws and Constitution

Name:

The name of the Association will be: Gulf Dental Students Association (GDSA)

Office:

.....

Article 1: Definition:

Dental Students: Is a dental student who is studying in any dental school in gulf region or a students from gulf countries who are studying abroad.

Article 2: Goals and Purposes of GDSA:

The purpose of founding the GDSA is to provide a forum for the growing area of dental for dental students' activities in gulf region and globally.

*Dental education is the basic foundation of the dental profession and therefore the continuous development and improvement is critical to ensure a high quality profession.

The purpose of GDSA will be the enhancement of the quality, and standards of dental student skills through establishment and development of leadership, volunteer programs and research projects in extra curriculum activities. It will train the dental students and collaborate with dental academics and institutions in the Middle East, Arab countries, and globally.

Article 3: Objectives:

GDSA aims to achieve the following objectives:

1. Promotes the advancement of dental education and research in the dental education.
2. Stimulates the collaboration, networking, exchange and dissemination of ideas and information among dental students.
3. Providing and maintaining optimal oral health care for the public by education, studies, investigations and treatment.
4. Promotes the development of students' extracurricular activities.
5. Promotes the exchange of students.
6. Provides an international link with other institutions concerned with dental students.

Article 4: Activities:

- Organization of an Annual gulf dental students and young dentists meeting.
- Organize 2 annually general assembly.
- Organize an annual community service events..
- Organize voluntary activities and Convoys to serve rural area national and international.
- Conducting lectures, courses, and workshops regarding continuous professional development.
- Developing communication through journal, periodicals, and newsletter.
- Participation in the global dental education meeting and conferences.
- Allowing exchange of students with dental institutions at international universities in order to obtain higher levels of experience regarding dental education, clinical and dental research.
- Post-graduation guidance program.
- Provide a statistics database for number of gulf dental school and dental students.

Article 5: Membership:

Section I: Active individual membership:

Category 1: Dental students:

All gulf dental students (governmental or private) are welcomed to be members.

Privileges of dental students' membership:

GDSA will provide the following benefits for the member dental students:

- Promotion of research programs.
- GDSA periodicals and the newsletter.
- Programs of quality assurance in dental education and training.
- Consultation for research and articles.
- Conduction of an international link with other institutes concerned with dental education.
- Students exchange programs.
- Participation in the Annual meeting, annual general assembly.

- Participation in lectures, courses and, workshops regarding GDSA activities.
- Global online scientific resources (e-library, web based scientific data base).
- Enhancement and facilitation of digital resources exchange (courses, educational aids, etc.).

Section II: Association Membership:

All the associations, society and clubs are welcomed to be member in GDSA, which allow all the members in that associations, society and clubs to be a member in GDSA. So, it will facilitate the renewed of the membership. And they have the same privileges of the individual and young dentist membership.

Section III : College Membership :

In this type of membership, any dental students or young dentists belong to that college they will be directly members in GDSA. And they have the same privileges of the individual and young dentist membership.

Section IV: Sponsors membership :

It will be provided to the companies they will be sponsors for GDSA

Privileges of sponsorship membership :

- 1.The name and logo of the company will be in newsletter of GDSA.
- 2.The company will be partner in all the activity of GDSA .

Section IV: Honorary membership:

Any individual who has rendered a distinct service to mankind, made outstanding contributions to dental students, and/or rendered exceptional service to the association may be nominated by the board of directors for honorary membership.

Privileges of honorary membership:

GDSA honorary member will have the following benefits:

- GDSA periodicals and the newsletter.
- Participation in the Annual meeting concerned with dental students.
- Participation in lectures, courses, and workshops regarding continuous dental education and dental education process.

Section V: Ambassadors membership:

An ambassador is a representative of GDSA in his/her college, who will be the main contact person for the association.

- Two ambassadors should be appointed from each college.
- The appointed ambassadors should complete one full academic year
- After serving the time, each ambassador should be replaced by an individual with equal qualifications.
- If an ambassador would like to continue during the next academic year, the following rules apply:

The ambassador may remain in charge, unless a new delegate is willing to take over, in which case the new delegate gets the priority for the position.

If the college only has one ambassador, that ambassador is required to bring in another representative to assist him/her, resulting in a total of two ambassadors for each college.

It is preferable to have one male and one female ambassador, as it will help encourage students and young dentists from all genders and ages to participate in the association.

If only one ambassador is found, communication via a single ambassador will suffice until a second ambassador is found.

If a college has no volunteer, the Executive Board have the right to encourage a representative they see fit to join the ambassador group.

Article 6: End of membership:

Membership in the GDSA will end in the following cases:

1. Member withdrawal or death.
2. Loss of one of the requirements of membership.
3. If the member perform any activity or work that can badly affect the unit by any mean after the decision of Board of the Directors.

Article 7: Re-membership:

Membership can be allowed again after request from the member if the causes subsided, and after agreement of the Board of Directors.

Article 8: General Assembly:

Section I - Composition:

The General Assembly will consist of:

1. Board of Directors.
2. All associated members, who will be elected by the active individual members during the annual meeting.

Section II - Powers:

The General Assembly is the legislative body of GDSA and will have the following powers:

1. Enacts, amends, and repeals the constitution and bylaws of GDSA. And for motions to take place and action, they require ONE YEAR or TWO General Assemblies.
2. Elects the members of the Board of Directors of GDSA.
3. Approves the accounts, the administration and the management of GDSA by the Board of Directors.

4. Initiates proposals conforming to the purposes of GDSA.
5. Decides on the annual dues and approves the budget.
6. Suggestion to transfer the office from university to another one.
7. Suggestion to terminate the association.

Article 9: Board of Directors of GDSA:

The Board of Directors will be the administrative body of GDSA.

Section I - Composition:

- Consists of a number of the General Assembly members do not exceed 11 members at least the members should be from 2/3 different gulf country, distributed as follows:
 - Ten of them elected directly by the General Assembly for one year, which can be renewed once.
 - Immediate Past President is a member for 1 year only.
 - If an individual is in the executive board of GDSA, they will not be allowed to apply to other associations during their year of duty.
- However, in the event where there are not enough nominees from other countries, then this article may be overlooked to allow more than 1/3rd of the board to be from the same country.
- The Board of Directors will select President, Vice president, General Secretary and Treasurer.
- The duration of the Board of Directors will be one year, which can be renewed 4 years.
- If any member did not attend 2 successive meetings without excuse the board can consider him a resigned.

On emptying of a place in the board for any reason, the board can nominate any substitute and the General Assembly approves this nomination in the first meeting.

Section II - Powers and Duties:

- Direct and organize the activities of GDSA.
- Execute the decisions reached by the General Assembly.
- Monitor the finances of GDSA.
- Select candidates for honorary membership.

Section III- Functions:

The President:

It shall be the duty of the President:

1. To lead GDSA, and preside over the General Assembly and the meeting of Board of Directors.
2. To report on the current state of GDSA to the General Assembly.
3. In the case of a tie in voting, President will have the casting vote.
4. To normally represent GDSA at other meetings/conferences such as FDI, IADS or any other gulf dental association when appropriate.

The Immediate Past President:

Will remain a board member for 1 year only.

It shall be the duty of the Immediate Past President:

1. To serve in place of the President at his request.
2. To serve in place of the President in case of absence of President and Vice- President.
3. To provide consultation and perform any duties requested by the president.
4. To chair the finance committee.

The Vice- President:

It shall be the duty of the Vice-President:

1. To be kept informed on all business and will assume the duties of the President in his absence, or if requested to do so by the President.

The Secretary General:

It shall be the role of the Secretary general:

1. To serve as secretary of the General Assembly and of the Board of Directors.
2. To prepare and organize the meeting of the Board of Directors and the committee meetings, and all official minutes.

3. To maintain a list of members of GDSA and their representatives.
4. To make annual reports to the Board of Directors and the General Assembly.
5. To perform such other duties as may be determined by the Board of Directors.

The Treasurer:

It shall be the role of the Treasurer:

1. To serve as custodian of all monies, securities and other financial assets of GDSA.
2. To prepare an annual budget of GDSA's income and expenditures
3. To submit the financial records of GDSA to the Board of Directors and the General Assembly.

The Registrar and Membership Affairs Officer:

It shall be the duty of the Registrar & Membership affairs Officer:

1. Preparing records of members
2. Registration book keeping
3. Managing application forms
4. Set the annual recruitment plan
5. Responsible for suggestion box
6. Organize Human Development programs
7. Responsible for documenting a report of each event To carry out such other assignments given by the GA and to follow the constitution outlines.

The Editor:

It shall be the duty of the Editor:

1. To edit and manage the GDSA Newsletter and publications in accordance with the Articles and Regulations.
2. To arrange advertisements and other forms of financial support for the GDSA Newsletter;
3. To submit annually a written report on his activities on behalf of

- the Association during his year of office, and his recommendations to the General Assembly;
4. To carry out such other duties as are assigned by the General Assembly, the Executive
 5. Committee, the Articles and Regulations as appertain to the position of Editor;
 6. To appoint an editorial board to improve correspondence and reporting to the Newsletter.
 7. This should take the form of a National Correspondent appointed for each Member country, who in turn would be responsible to a Regional correspondent appointed for a specific area.
 8. This board is to be under the supervision of the Editor.
 9. To maintain and update an official GDSA website providing information for dental students worldwide.
 10. Manage social media

The Gulf Exchange Officer:

It shall be the duty of the International Exchange Officer:

1. To serve as the officer responsible for the collection and distribution of all information which is of international and local interest to Members concerning his duties as set out below;
2. To collect and integrate information relating to Dental education at the various Member schools and Associations and initiate projects of this nature;
3. To preside at Exchange Officers' Meetings;
4. To submit annually a written report on his activities on behalf of the Association during his year of office, and his recommendations to the General Assembly;
5. To carry out such other duties as are assigned by the General Assembly, the Executive Committee, the Articles and Regulations as are required of an officer responsible for Dental Student exchange.

The Scientific Officer:

It shall be the duty of scientific officer:

1. To supervise all the scientific work of the association as well as

representatives from each member country and coordinate in between them

2. To collect scientific articles for the newsletter and to give his acceptance for them;
3. To serve as the officer responsible for the collection and distribution of all information referring to post-graduation studies;
4. To submit annually written report, during the GDSA Meetings;
5. To inform GDSA members about the upcoming scientific events;
6. To carry out such other assignments given by the GA and to follow the constitution outlines;
7. To be in contact with other scientific entities around the world like IADR etc.

The Community Service Officer:

It shall be the duty of the Community Service committee officer:

1. To prepare For community service projects related to Dental Profession
2. To prepare for general community service projects not related to Dental profession
3. To prepare for Charity projects
4. To report for the Editor for publications
5. To responsible for documenting a report of each event
6. To carry out such other assignments given by the GA and to follow the constitution outlines;
7. To carry out such other assignments relative to community service other than the above mentioned points.

The Post-Graduate Officer:

It shall be the duty of the Post-graduate officer:

1. To announce the post-grad opportunities in gulf region and internationally.
2. To organize lecture about post-grad studies.
3. To create a database of students who are doing post grad and willing to help other new students.

Section IV- Sessions of the Board of Directors:

The Board of Directors will normally meet every six weeks and may also meet at the request of half of the members of the Board of Directors, 1/5 the General Assembly or the President of the Board of Directors and in this case the meeting discusses only the reason of the request.

The sessions are valid only by the presence of the majority of the members.

Decisions taking by the voting of the majority of the present members, and if they are equal the voice of the President predominates.

Article 10: Committees of GDSA:

The Board of Directors have the right to establish a number of committees that serve the students and society (voluntary work committee, cultural committee, social committee, sports committee, training and exchange committees, research committee, designing committee, financial committee ...etc)

An additional six positions have been added as roles for the remaining executive committee members. These additional 6 posts were suggested so each member of the executive committee can have an official role with a certain target to work for throughout the year. This will make things easier for the individual and will create a smoother running association. The six new roles are:

- 1- Scientific Officer
- 2- Community Service Officer
- 3- Gulf Exchange Officer
- 4- Registrar
- 5- Editor
- 6- Post-Graduate Officer

Subcommittees:

- A subcommittee falls under the Scientific Officer and Community Services Officer – the committees discussed with the General Assembly are: 1) Volunteering Committee (under the Community Services Committee) 2) Research Committee (under the Scientific Committee) 3) Prophylaxis Committee (under the Community Services Committee)

- A subcommittee officer's position should be available for ambassadors or active members of the association – and is assigned by the Executive Board through an interview.

Article 11: International Representation:

GDSA should be represented internationally by being a member in the FDI, International Association of Dental Students (IADS) and young dentists worldwide.