

Annual Report to the House of Delegates, June 20, 2024, from the

## Editors

As Editors of the Journal of the Massachusetts Dental Society (MDS), we hereby submit the following report: We thank Ellen Factor and Suzanne Gullledge for their heroic efforts to work with us to maintain the quality of our publications and keep the membership informed on the many activities of MDS. Ellen brings her familiarity and knowledge of organized dentistry issues as a substantial asset for our Journal. As our Graphic Designer, Suzanne continues to demonstrate innovative skills and works hard to continue to produce an award-winning publication that has a clean, professional, and engaging look. We also enthusiastically welcome Julie Matondi Doucet, our new and very capable Publications Manager. She has brought experience and talent to the MDS, and it is a pleasure to work with her. Your editors are extremely grateful to have her on our team, especially because she is not at all fazed by our idiosyncrasies.

It is critical that our publications emphasize the positives for our readership, as well as maintain a firm hold on current events and information. Our national editor's group represents the complete spectrum of political and clinical thinking, which creates much discussion. We are proud and happy to continue to report that the *Journal* has been outspoken on the side of scientific facts and on protecting the public welfare.

During the past year, the *Journal* continued to highlight a wide range of clinical and practice management subjects to benefit our readers. We also continued to receive national recognition and awards.

The Journal had revenues in display and classified advertising for calendar year 2023, which greatly offset printing and mailing costs.

The Journal continues to have a strong online presence through our digital version, which allows readers to access the publications on all devices.

The Fall 2023 issue featured a cover story about the incidence of human papilloma virus within the U.S. Latino population and the possible correlation with oral squamous cell carcinoma. Other articles included a survey study that evaluated the knowledge of oral cancer among fourth year predoctoral students and a case report on a child whose multiple carious lesions were successfully treated with silver diamine fluoride. Each issue also includes an EDIC contribution on Risk Management as well as regular features: Clinician's Corner, Pathology Snapshot, Book reviews, and the Art of Dentistry.

The Winter 2023 issue featured an in-depth article on the concerns of patients with Sjogren's Syndrome during the COVID-19 pandemic. Other articles included the difficulty of preventing dental and oral disease in children, and dry socket management for general dentists. It was also our Yankee issue in addition to our regular features.

The Spring 2023 issue featured our annual "10 under Ten" winners which highlights those dentists who represent the future of our profession. The feature article addressed the application of dental evidence to both criminal and civil law; additionally, another article discussed a study on the use of cone-beam computed technology to evaluate dentin thickness of first molars. We also had our regular features.

The Summer 2023 issue featured our annual William McKenna Volunteer Hero winner, Dr Andrew Tonelli. Other articles included a surgical case study of a radicular cyst in a primary molar of an 8-year-old, the first reported case of bilateral anchored disc phenomenon following extraction of a third molar, and a case report of a pregnant woman who developed pyogenic granuloma. We also had our regular features.

### Acknowledgments

We would like to thank our regular contributors: Drs. Vikki Noonan and Devaki Sundararajan (Pathology Snapshot); Dr. Daniel Oreadi (Clinician's Corner); Dr. Todd Belfecker (Book Reviews); Katie Panikian (Risk Management); and Dr. Roy Schonbrun (Art of Dentistry).

We would also like to recognize the members of the Editorial Board and their contributions:

David Bardwell, DMD

Bruce Donoff, DMD, MD

Robert Faiella, DMD

Paul Feuerstein, DMD

Ian Grayson, DDS

Rita Han, DDS

Lily Hu, DMD

Charles Millstein, DMD

Romesh Nalliah, BDS, MHCM

Vikki Noonan, DMD, DMSc

Anubha Sacheti, DMD

Steven Tonelli, DMD

Carlin Weaver, DMD

The MDS staff responsible for the *Journal* continues to strive to make the publication one of the premier and oft-imitated dental publications in the United States.

Your Editors are extremely grateful to continue to be involved in providing.

Respectfully submitted,

David B. Becker, DMD, MPH, Editor

Arthur Schwartz, DMD, Associate Editor

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## Secretary

As Secretary, I herewith submit the following report:

Since the last annual session of the House of Delegates in January 2023, the MDS has completed the 2022-2023 Governance Year and is approaching the June 30<sup>th</sup> end of the 2023-2024 Governance Year. The MDS Board of Trustees for those years are as follows.

### **January 2023 – June 2023:**

President Dr. Meredith Bailey

Vice President Dr. Abe Abdulwaheed (was suspended from the Board in February 2023 for the remainder of that governance year)

Secretary: Dr. Sathish Palayam

Treasurer: Dr. Jennifer Korzeb

Speaker of the House: Dr. Raymond Martin

Region 1 Trustee; Dr. Paul Gamache

Region 2 Trustee: Dr. Charles Greffrath

Region 3 Trustee: Dr. Jeffrey Karen

Region 4 Trustee: Dr. Mary DeMello

Region 5 Trustee; Dr. Michael Mayr

Region 6 Trustee: Dr. Maritza Morell

At-Large Trustee: Dr. Dylan Weber

Guest Board Members: Dr. Justine Karanian, Dr. Mira Khouzam, Dr. Garrett Wingrove, and Dr. Andre Zelikov

### **July 2023 – June 2024**

President Dr. Abe Abdulwaheed

Vice President Dr. Steven Spitz

Secretary: Dr. Maritza Morell

Treasurer: Dr. Jennifer Korzeb

Speaker of the House: Dr. David Samuels

Immediate Past President: Dr. Meredith Bailey

Region 1 Trustee; Dr. Colleen Chambers

Region 2 Trustee: Dr. Charles Greffrath

Region 3 Trustee: Dr. Jeffrey Karen

Region 4 Trustee: Dr. Mary DeMello

Region 5 Trustee; Dr. Michael Mayr

Region 6 Trustee: Dr. Albert Sandler

At-Large Trustee: Dr. Dylan Weber

Guest Board Members: Dr. Laura Glicksman, Dr. Micheline Moini, Dr. Divya Mudumba, and Dr. Samantha Parad

Since January 2023, the MDS Board of Trustees have held meetings on the following dates:

- January 27, 2023 Special Meeting Minutes
- February 16, 2023 Special Meeting
- March 10, 2023
- April 13, 2023 Special Meeting
- May 5, 2023
- June 22, 2023 Special Meeting
- June 29, 2023 Special Meeting
- July 29, 2023
- September 22, 2023
- October 16, 2023 Special Meeting

- October 24, 2023 Special Meeting
- November 1, 2023 Special Meeting
- November 17, 2023
- December 20, 2024 Special Meeting
- February 5, 2024 Special Meeting
- February 7, 2024 Special Meeting
- February 12, 2024 Special Meeting
- March 8, 2024
- March 20, 2024 Special Meeting
- April 15, 2024 Special Meeting
- May 17, 2024

The Board also conducted electronic votes: November 15, 2023; December 1, 2023; January 8, 2024; February 5, 2024; and May 6, 2024.

Detailed summaries of all formally approved Board actions are available in the Calendar of Referrals on the House of Delegates webpage and summaries of major actions and discussions were sent to Board Members and District Chairs and Secretaries.

The Board had an Orientation on June 21, 2023, and held its annual Board Retreat on July 28-29, 2023, at Babson Executive Conference Center. The MDS was represented at the 165th ADA Annual Session and House of Delegates by a delegation of 18 in October 2023.

Respectfully submitted,  
Maritza Morell, DMD

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## Treasurer

As Treasurer, I herewith submit the following report:

The accounting firm AAFCPAs audited our financial records for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023. Their audit concluded that the consolidated financial statements fairly represented our financial position in all material respects. The audit findings were presented to the Board of Trustees (BOT) on September 22, 2023. As part of the annual audit, AAFCPAs also assessed our internal controls and found no material weaknesses. Dr. Frank Schiano, Chair of the Audit Committee, reviewed the audit results with AAFCPAs representatives and submitted the committee's report to the BOT, recommending acceptance of the auditors' reports.

For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, the Massachusetts Dental Society (MDS) and its affiliates, MDS Insurance Services, Inc., Firmin Joint Venture, LLC, and the MDS Foundation, Inc., reported a consolidated net income of \$565,338, compared with a net loss of \$246,182 in the previous fiscal year. This increase in revenue was primarily driven by investments and a robust external market. On a stand-alone basis, excluding the affiliates, MDS achieved a net income of \$1,020,938, contrasting with a budgeted deficit of \$162,582. This resulted in a favorable budget-to-actual variance of \$1,183,520. The MDS had a 12.30% operating increase compared to the budget.

As of June 30, 2023, the consolidated net assets of the MDS and its affiliates were approximately \$16.7M as compared to \$15.9M in the prior year. The increase in net assets compared to the prior year was attributed to the upturn in the external market conditions. The MDS' total net assets approximated \$9,756,155 (83%) of the total consolidated net assets as of June 30, 2023.

The 2023-24 budget approved at the June 2023 HOD meeting projected a deficit for the year of \$94,466. The budget was drafted using a strategic forward-thinking approach due to the optimistic projected revenue growth in the fiscal year 2022-2023. The fiscal year 2022-23 budget provided the investment of more resources into programming which has resulted in a positive year-to-date 12% growth in Yankee Dental compared to budget. The proposed budget for 2023-24 continues to use this approach, increasing the investment of resources to attain growth, the core focus, and priorities of the Society. The continued growth of the Society depends on its ability to invest its resources into programming across the Society.

In April 2024, the Budget and Fiscal Planning Committee (BFP) met to review the proposed budget for 2024-25. Following this review, the proposed budget was presented to the BOT for approval and made available for review by all House delegates. During the House of Delegates meeting on June 20, 2024, significant points in the budget will be discussed, and delegates will have the opportunity to ask questions and receive answers. The delegates will then vote on the budget.

Please note the membership dues increase included in the budget is based on the dues stabilization policy passed at the 2015 HOD meeting. If there is a need for a dues increase or decrease beyond what is calculated under this policy, the June House delegates must approve it. Additionally, the budget includes a proposed dues rate decrease adjustment of \$123,514 for implementing a membership model targeting individuals within the 0–5-year timeframe, which also requires approval by the House delegates.

I would like to express my gratitude to the members of the Budget and Fiscal Planning Committee: Drs. Colleen Chambers, Jeffrey Karen, Maritza Morell, David Samuels, Albert Sandler, and Steven Spitz.

As Treasurer, I have also served as Chair of the Investment Subcommittee, and I extend my thanks to Dr. Maritza Morrell and Dr. Steven Spitz for their service on the Investment Subcommittee this governance year. The Subcommittee has maintained ongoing communication with our investment managers, New England Private Wealth Advisors (NEPWA), throughout the year to manage the investment portfolios of the MDS and its affiliated entities. As of May 2024, the value of the MDS reserve portfolio has increased to \$5,054,299, up from \$4,427,739 in May 2023.

I also want to recognize and thank the accounting department staff: Managing Director of Accounting and Finance Susan Griffin, Staff Accountant Sean Nadeau, and Accounts Payable Specialist Karen Gum. Their diligent work in maintaining financial controls and procedures has been essential in safeguarding the organization's assets and ensuring the accuracy of our financial reports.

Finally, I want to thank you for the opportunity to serve as Treasurer of MDS during this governance year. It has been a pleasure to serve in this position, and I am pleased with the organization's overall financial strength and the quality of our financial processes and controls.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jennifer Korzeb, DMD