



Exciting Opportunities on the WSSO board

During the membership business meeting at our annual WSSO CE meeting on February 14th I briefly noted the leadership opportunities that are opening soon for members who have interest in leadership positions on the WSSO board. I wanted to follow up with significantly detailed information since I know there are members who have interest in serving and I want to provide a full spectrum of the nature of the board and the positions soon becoming available. As you well know the orthodontic practice environment is constantly changing and this is a great opportunity to have an impact on the nature and direction of that change.

Starting with the new board year **on July 1st there are three interesting opportunities** that will be available. These are great possibilities for members to be involved in advancing orthodontics and to serve our membership and their patients. It is also a great chance to work in a team environment with committed and dedicated orthodontic colleagues. In addition to helping orthodontics, being a member of the board is a great learning and personal growth opportunity that will provide management and communication skills that will be useful in your day to day work environment.

The WSSO board has five board meetings per year from September to the end of June. Three of these meetings are in person dinner meetings in Seattle and two are on line meetings. In addition, WSSO board members attend the two general membership meetings; the Washington State Business Breakfast at the PCSO Meeting and the Annual WSSO CE meeting. In order to encourage broad representation on the board the WSSO will cover travel expenses for a board member who travels from Eastern Washington or from significantly north or south of Seattle for the board meetings. The term of office for board members is two years with an opportunity to renew once for a total term of four years.

Secretary Position

This is the starting position on the WSSO officer track and **this individual will advance to President-Elect in 2021-2022 and President in 2022-2023.**

By design, the work load associated with this position is relatively light so the focus can be on **developing leadership skills for the two officer positions that follow.** This position is tailored for a member who either has previous experience on the WSSO board or in previous leadership positions with other dental or orthodontic organizations.

Chair of Peer Review

The WSSO provides peer review services for our members when requested by the member to help in **improving communication and resolving situations where there are misunderstandings related to patient care.**

This position is best for **an experienced clinician who feels comfortable in acting as a communication channel** in these types of complexities that can arise between doctor and patient. The good news is that our member orthodontists by and large do a great job of communicating with their patients and the work load for this position has been relatively light over the last several years. The orthodontist in this position is an active board member and is involved to a great degree in the general work of the board.

Chair of Orthodontic Practice Division

This is an ideal position for an mid-career orthodontist who is an active clinician and has a strong interest in all issues that impact or potentially impact orthodontic practice. Recently there have been increasing numbers of legislative and regulatory issues that have been impacting and will further impact our practices and our patients. In fact there are political and regulatory influences that could dramatically alter orthodontic practice as we know it. This is an ideal position for an **orthodontist who wants to be in the forefront of guiding the future of orthodontic specialty practice.**

The Chair of the Orthodontic Practice Division **works with a three person team** including the Chair of the Legislative Division as well as a Member at Large to monitor and analyze proposed regulatory and legislative actions. It is an exciting position since in addition to working with these two other members of our board there is also an opportunity to work with state legislators, the members of DQAC, the AAO legal team, WSDA governmental affairs team, and the WSSO lobbyist. The orthodontist in this position should be energetic, comfortable with public speaking and in conjunction with the other team members be willing to synthesize information in order to formulate a logical position in response to proposed bills and regulations.

In short this is an interesting and exciting opportunity with a possibility for significant personal growth and a genuine opportunity to protect the practices of our members and the well being of their patients.

In closing I do want to thank you for your support of all members of the WSSO board and your recognition of the commitment of the board members to the well-being of your practice and the quality of care for your patients. We hope to hear from orthodontists who are interested in being a key part of the team dedicated to advancing the practice of orthodontics in the State of Washington. For further information please email our office at wssso.board@gmail.com and you will receive a prompt response from me personally.

Bryan Williams
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