

**American Academy of Audiology**  
**Board of Directors Meeting Overview**  
**April 17, 2018**

- The board and council chairs held their quarterly meeting over lunch to continue discussion of the role of the councils, including offering guidance and coordination of committee activities. In preparation for the July planning retreat at the Academy headquarters office, the council chairs will assist committees in identifying priorities and timelines. The councils serve an ongoing project management role in tracking the progress of activities towards defined end products. The board thanked the chairs for their service and contributions to implementing the new organizational structure.
- The board selected the new Editor-in-Chief of *Audiology Today*.
- In recognition of member challenges in accessing the weekly community digest, staff will return to a daily digest setting for all current and new subscribers to the general community. The board requested ongoing monitoring of the community to support postings congruent with the goals of the community, primarily to facilitate the exchange of professional information among members.
- Expanded use of the externship platform on HEARCareers was discussed. The SAA provided feedback on strategies to enhance externship information, and the board is exploring other resources that could enhance the services the Academy provides to support students for their externship experience. Additionally, the board is tasking the Academic Programs Committee with expanding its exploration of the challenges and strategies for the externship year into a full paper that could be useful to the membership and offer guidance for next steps by the Academy.
- The board supported the expansion of the successful New Professionals Conference to a full-day offering in conjunction with AAA2019. The expanded program will include focus on leadership skills and career development beyond the practice of audiology with sessions for both new and mid-career audiologists.
- The board has requested assistance from the Professional Education and Certificate Programs Committee in defining the charge and proposing members to serve on the new Audiology Technician Training Programs Task Force.
- The board considered options for the CEU reporting process and the impact to this important member benefit.
- The board approved the 2019 dues and discussed the impact to the ongoing Public Awareness campaign.
- The board approved the registration fee schedule for AAA 2019 in Columbus.
- The board reviewed recommendations developed by a multi-organizational work group to send to the FDA relative to technical specifications and labeling for over-the-counter hearing aids. The board agreed with many of the recommendations but did request changes to a few specifications and terminology.

- The board reviewed the organization's tax return, audit report, financial statements, and financial report to the membership.
- To prepare for the next cycle of volunteer leadership appointments, the board reviewed the committee vacancies. The board has extended to council chairs an opportunity to serve an additional year to assist with further refinement and implementation of the new structure.
- The board discussed the Academy's position on priorities for legislation to advance the audiology profession. The board identified the goal of advancing autonomous practice with the focus on priorities of direct/streamlined access to audiology services and being recognized and reimbursed for performing full scope of practice under the Medicare program and across private payers. The board did not identify any legislation to support currently that would be consistent with these priorities and mitigate potential risk to audiologists. After AAA 2018, Academy leadership will provide members with more detail about the Academy priorities and analysis of legislation.