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**How do you work with or lead a team?**

As a team leader, I prioritize fostering a collaborative and empowering environment where each member feels valued and has a clear sense of purpose. I strive to maintain professionalism and respect while minimizing hierarchy, recognizing that the success of a leader is tied to the strength of the team they cultivate.

The key principles I emphasize in my work with the NSU ASDA team are:

**Clear Communication:** I ensure tasks are clearly outlined and concise and provide constructive feedback to support continuous improvement. To implement this, the Vice President and I started semester check-ins where we allowed each chair to discuss how their time in the position has been and an opportunity for us to give tips on how to grow within their role.

**Effective Delegation:** By delegating tasks thoughtfully, I ensure each team member feels integral to the team's success and is empowered to contribute meaningfully.

**Collaborative Environment:** I foster an inclusive space where the executive board and chairs can openly share ideas, address concerns, and collaborate to bring initiatives to life.

**Recognition:** Through initiatives like the monthly spotlight member awards, I acknowledge the hard work and achievements of team members, creating a motivating atmosphere that encourages ongoing commitment.

These core values guide my leadership approach, and by consistently applying them, I have successfully cultivated a motivated, high-performing ASDA team this year.

**What leadership experiences have equipped you for the role of President/Vice President?**

Over the past three years in dental school, I have gained valuable leadership experience that has prepared me for the role of Vice President or President. Serving as ASDA President-elect, District 5 Director of Events, and currently as NSU ASDA President, I have developed a comprehensive skill set in team management, event planning, and strategic advocacy.

As ASDA President-elect, I worked closely with the President and Vice President, taking on various tasks to support the team and advocating for events that promoted student well-being

and professional development. This role taught me the importance of adaptability and collaborative problem-solving.

In my role as District 5 Director of Events, I honed my skills in cross-functional teamwork, working with various groups to plan large-scale events such as retreats and the annual District 5 conference. This experience sharpened my ability to manage multiple stakeholders and ensure the successful execution of complex projects.

As NSU ASDA President, I have built a strong, motivated team that has helped elevate our chapter to new heights. Under my leadership, we achieved the highest conference attendance to date and the most engaging ASDA Fever Week. I also redirected our budget to prioritize student attendance at key events and successfully revived a highly requested Winter Formal.

These leadership experiences have equipped me with the skills necessary to drive change, foster collaboration, and represent the best interests of our dental student community.

**What are 2-3 issues important to dental students and/or the position of president?**

The key issues facing dental students align closely with the responsibilities of the ASDA National President. If elected, I would work closely with the events and financial teams to explore ways to make ASDA conferences more accessible to all dental students. Conferences are vital for fostering leadership, interpersonal communication, and networking, offering students opportunities to explore their passions within dentistry. I aim to reduce the cost of attendance or increase the budget to provide additional scholarships, ensuring that more students can benefit from these essential experiences.

Advocacy is another critical area for ASDA and dental students alike. I propose creating a mini advocacy series that highlights current issues in dentistry and provides a platform for dental students to engage in grassroots efforts to drive change. This initiative would empower students to advocate for policies that shape a better future for the profession post-graduation.

Finally, the rising cost of dental education and the increasing burden of student debt remain significant concerns. As ASDA National President, I would leverage the resources of National ASDA to advocate for policy changes that address the financial challenges students face. This includes promoting loan repayment options and other financial solutions to ensure that dental education becomes more affordable and accessible.

By addressing these key issues—conference accessibility, student advocacy, and debt management—I aim to support dental students in their professional development and ensure a sustainable, equitable future for the dental community.