

ASDA

**ANNUAL  
REPORT**

**2024-25**

# FROM OUR PRESIDENT, SAMARTH SETRU



One year ago, standing on this very platform, I declared ASDA to be the strongest student-led organization in the country. Today, 12 months later, after witnessing the consistent and tireless work of our staff, board of trustees, standing committees, and district and chapter leaders, I am deeply honored to affirm my statement with even more conviction.

As we look to the year ahead, it is important to acknowledge the successes of the past year.

## MEMBERSHIP PROGRAMS

- In 2024, ASDA introduced partnerships with Panacea Financial and College Ave.
- During Wellness Month, members participated in student-led activity reels that highlighted ASDA's five pillars of wellness.
- Over 800 members attended NLC 2024 - a near record-breaking event!

## DEI AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

- The Council on Professional Issues hosted the second annual Service Month.
- D&I Week highlighted our members' dedication to service and representation, reinforcing ASDA's commitment to inclusivity and community impact.

# PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

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## ADVOCACY

- During Advocacy Month, our membership sent over 2,300 letters to Congress, supporting 31 bills.
- We championed tax policies benefiting small dental practices and students, we backed the Dental Faculty Loan Repayment Program, and we took a stand on restructuring concerns for the National Institutes of Health.
- Most recently, we also supported the fight against the Food & Water Watch v. EPA ruling, which threatened to impose stricter regulations on community water fluoridation. ASDA will continue to fight as we await the outcome of the Biden administration appeal.
- In 2024, seven states joined the Dentist and Dental Hygienist Compact, which allows dentists to practice in member states without reapplying for licensure, which now totals 10 states.

## MEMBERSHIP ENGAGEMENT

- This year, ASDA proudly welcomed 3 new chapters to our community: Ponce and Ana G. Mendez in Puerto Rico and High Point in North Carolina. The energy and enthusiasm from our new chapters have only fueled our excitement for the continued growth of our membership.
- Based on our 2023 membership survey, we launched the Chapter Leadership Academy and the Graduate Webinar Series. These initiatives provide vital support to chapter leaders and help prepare students for the transition to professional life.
- Record participation in the Fever Week Challenge and Gold Crown Awards.

# THANK YOU, ASDA

I would like to thank District 3, the Penn chapter, and my mentors at school for introducing me to this organization and entrusting me to both learn and contribute.

To all the national leaders on standing committees, thank you for the ongoing work you have done to advance our association's mission this year. You all are the driving force behind so much of our national programming, and your creativity has brought so many impactful ideas to life.

From the bottom of my heart, thank you to the Board of Trustees. I am proud of the moments we have had in the Board room, where you brought your unique perspectives together to work as one team and do all that we could to support this organization.

I have always said ASDA's strength lies in its numbers. We are powerful as individuals, but we are strongest together. But what truly unites us?

Our mission. And together, we will make it unstoppable.

As some of you go on to graduate and others continue in dental school, I urge you all to carry this collective mindset wherever you go, while also embracing the individual backgrounds, thoughts, and skillsets of those around you. Ask questions, understand each other, and push your peers to be the person they are meant to be. Embrace the changes and growth that are coming your way, not as individuals, but as one united community, and nothing will be able to stop you.

Thank you all for the opportunity to serve as President of the American Student Dental Association. I have been humbled to have been able to work with you all. Aside from being a friend, son, brother, and grandson, I can boldly say that this has been the greatest honor of my life. I look forward to continuing our work into our young careers and beyond, united by the purpose and passions that bind us.

Thank you!

Samarth Setru

2024-25 National ASDA President

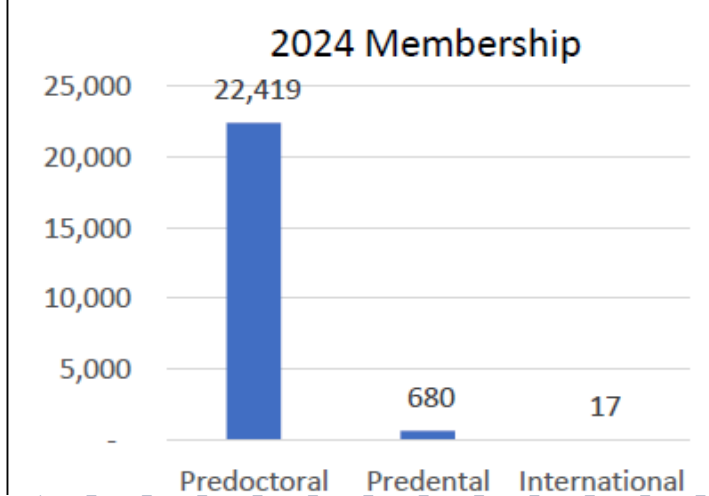
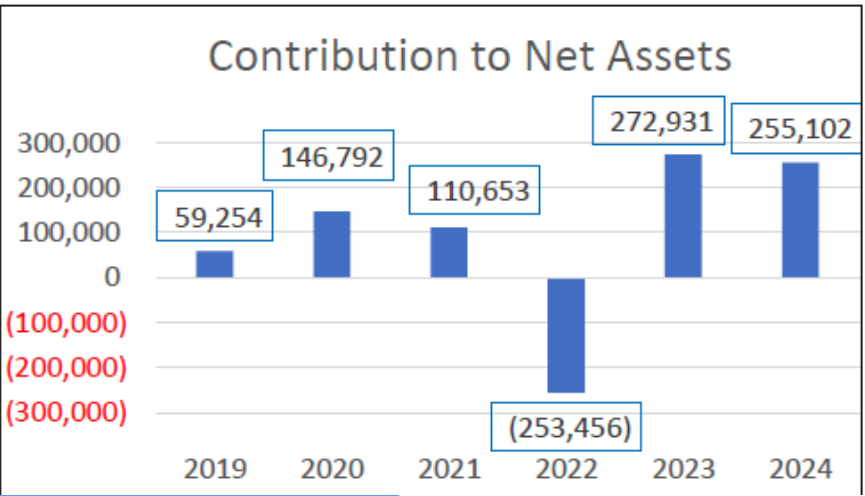
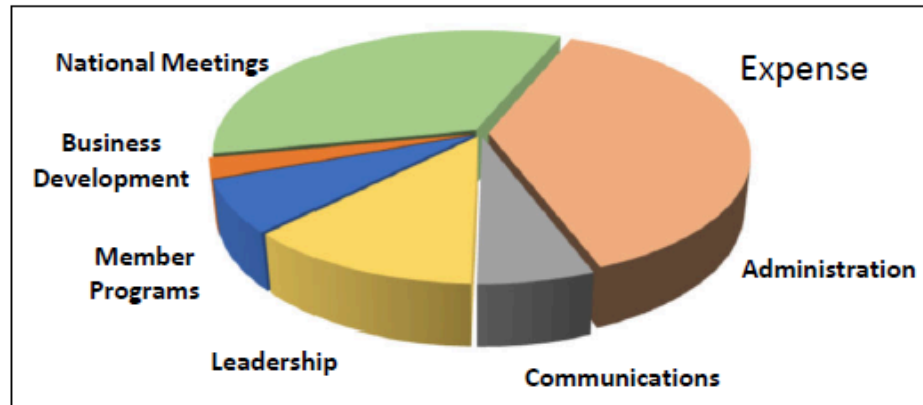
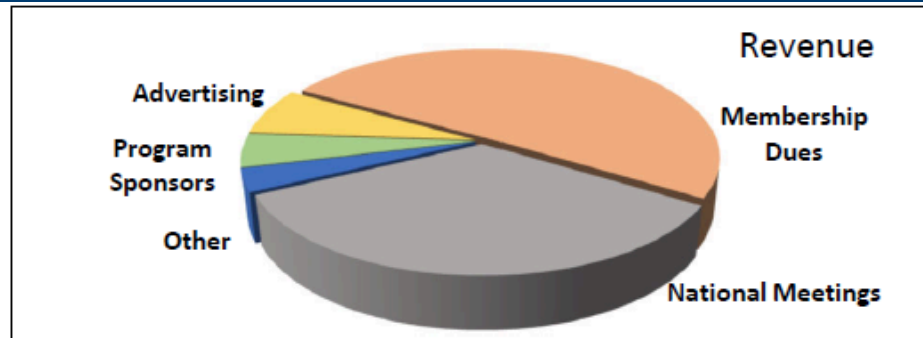
A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Samarth Setru". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial 'S'.

# STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2024.

THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REPRESENT A FORECASTED VIEW ONLY.

<b>Revenue</b>	
Membership Dues	\$ 2,067,467
National Meetings	1,394,467
Advertising	286,799
Program Sponsors	201,161
Other	137,921
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 4,087,815</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
Administration	\$ 1,532,557
National Meetings	1,381,288
Leadership	492,317
Member Programs	274,235
Communications	245,167
Business Development	106,660
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 4,032,225</b>
<b>Net Income From Operations</b>	<b>\$ 55,590</b>



2024-25

**COUNCIL  
AND  
COMMITTEE  
HIGHLIGHTS**





# ASDA Councils

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ASDA introduces students to organized dentistry and provides opportunities to develop leadership skills. National leaders are responsible for furthering ASDA's mission and completing tasks aligned with the council or committee mission. ASDA currently has five standing councils and two committees

Below are highlights from each committee and council from the 2024-25 leadership cycle.





## Board of Trustees

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- Appointed a wellness council task force and a multi district advocacy events task force to investigate resolutions 205-2024 and 206-2024.
- Approved the following items to assist with redistricting efforts:
  - District standards to ensure each district is adhering to the same set of principles
  - Updated district financial reporting to keep chapter leaders informed
  - District template bylaws to provide consistency in elections across all districts
  - New legislative regions to assist the Council on Advocacy with their efforts
- Approved the creation of a new member benefit with CollegeAve, allowing predoctorals and predoctorals access to personal loans.
- Approved the creation of a new wellness council that will take effect in the 2025-26 leadership year.



## Council on Advocacy

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- The council continued utilizing the Advocacy Leaders GroupMe as a platform for advocacy leaders to share ideas and connect asynchronously.
- The council launched the “Donut” Forget to Vote initiative, providing resources for chapters to host voter registration drives and encouraging members to fill out a short survey after registering to vote.
- The Council determined ASDA’s support to sign onto four coalition letters on a variety of topics

## Council on Communications

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- Mental Health Awareness Month: The council created content that focused on tips for overall well-being and ASDA National leaders created a reel showcasing how important words are to your well-being.
- During the year, the council created multiple grid posts highlighting members to celebrate heritage months decided on by the Board.
- The 2024 Chapter Wellness Grant applications were reviewed, and the council selected chapters to receive funding.
- New this year, the council created ‘12 Days of ASDA’, a social media campaign that highlighted twelve different areas of ASDA.

## Council on Professional Issues

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- The council hosted a webinar in September titled Community Service at your Chapter: Ideas and Resources for Community Service Chairs, to share information on the community service initiatives that will be happening throughout the year.
- The council reviewed nominations and selected a recipient for the National Community Builder of the Year Award. This award recognizes an outstanding ASDA leader dedicated to dental outreach and community service.
- The council hosted D&I Week in October and Service Month in January, offering members education and resources in these areas throughout these events.

## **Governance Committee**

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- The Committee reviewed the Standing Rules of the Board of Trustees and is proposing the following amendments:
  - Amendment to Section 4. ASDA Delegation to the House of Delegates
  - Amendment to Section 15. Strategic Planning Protocol
- The Committee reviewed and approved the Standing Rules of the House of Delegates.
- The Committee is proposing amendments to the following policies at the 2025 House of Delegates:
  - B-6 Domestic Abuse and Neglect
  - B-13 Evidence-Based Prescribing
  - E-3 School Closings
  - E-8 Code of Ethics
- The Committee reviewed and approved the Bylaws.

## **Committee on Sessions**

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- The committee selected the 2025 Annual Session theme, “Where Your Voice is Instrumental,” to commemorate the meeting location, Kansas City, MO, and celebrate the importance of ASDA members’ perspectives and their contributions to driving the association forward.
- The committee approved changes to the agenda to allow students to attend multiple educational breakout sessions focused on chapter leader training. They identified topics, speakers, and format types for these sessions, including idea exchange sessions and lecture-style sessions.
- To commemorate ASDA’s redistricting efforts taking place in 2025, the committee approved integrating elements of the new districts into the wellness activity and gala.

## Editorial Board

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- The 2024-2025 issues of *Contour* covered various topics from debunking dental myths to dentistry in space to dental humor and beyond.
  - Some notable articles include an interview with the Philadelphia Eagles dentist in *More Than an Ounce of Prevention*, an investigation into a non-traditional approach to dentistry in *3D Printing* and *The Politics of Dentistry*.
- Contributing Editors recruited dental students across the country to write for *Contour*. They provided assignments and support throughout the writing and editing process.

## Council on Membership

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- The council hosted a webinar to inform chapter leaders about the Gold Crown application process.
- Council members reviewed applications and awarded the Membership Outreach Grant in October 2024.
- In October 2024, the council awarded the ASDA Fever Week Challenge winners.
- The Council on Membership awarded the Gold Crown Award winners in January 2025.



ASDA

**A SPECIAL  
THANK YOU TO  
THE 2024-2025  
VOLUNTEER  
LEADERS FOR  
MOVING THE  
ORGANIZATION  
FORWARD.**