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Q1 Georgia

Select your chapter.

Q2 District 4

Select your district

Q3

Your Name

Sarah Hsu

Q4

Chapter Position

Historian

Q5

Your Email

sahsu@augusta.edu

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Q6

Describe one member engagement and value event or chapter member benefit program aimed at increasing member engagement and value. This excludes the submission of multiple events that are part of a single week-long or month-long challenge e.g., the discussion of various events during a chapter's Fever Week. (250 word limit. Responses longer than 250 words will be cut.)

At the Dental College of Georgia, we proudly support the autoenrollment of all 384 of our students as members of ASDA. This initiative ensures every student has equal access to ASDA's opportunities, allowing us to focus on creating meaningful events that maximize member engagement and value. Situated in Augusta, home to The Masters Tournament, DCG embraces the city's thriving golf culture by hosting two annual golf tournaments—one in the fall and one in the spring. These events are designed not only to celebrate local traditions but also to provide a unique and enjoyable experience for our ASDA members. This spring, our tournament took place at Bartram Trail Golf Club, featuring a scramble format where students teamed up with faculty. The event attracted significant participation with 80 players, 20 teams and support from nine sponsors. Throughout the day, students engaged in friendly competition, including longest drive and closest-to-the-pin contests hosted by vendor sponsors positioned around the course. More than just a game, the tournament offered students a platform to connect with classmates, faculty, and industry professionals in an informal setting outside the classroom. Sponsors included companies and organizations that could become future employers or collaborators, enhancing the networking value of the event. These tournaments reflect DCG's commitment to fostering relationships within our community and building bridges to professional opportunities. By integrating fun, competition, and career development, we ensure that our ASDA members experience the full value of their membership.

Q7

Describe one chapter community service event that creates connections with our communities. This excludes the submission of multiple events that are part of a single week-long or month-long challenge (250 word limit. Responses longer than 250 words will be cut.)

Hurricane Helene was certainly not on Augusta's bingo card this year, leaving the city in shambles and despair. While the city and our school were unprepared for the extent of the damage, our commitment to serving the community remained strong. In the aftermath of the storm, we quickly rallied together to make a positive impact. We organized a community cleanup around Lake Olmstead. Students dedicated their normally free Wednesday afternoon to help restore the natural beauty around the lake, which had been littered with debris from the hurricane's aftermath. Armed with gloves, trash bags, and a shared sense of purpose, we worked tirelessly to clear the water and surrounding trails, removing waste and improving the environment for everyone in Augusta. This event not only helped to beautify the city but also highlighted the power of collective action in times of crisis. Our members came together, putting aside personal time to contribute to the greater good. The cleanup served as a reminder of the importance of environmental stewardship and our role in preserving the local ecosystem. It was an opportunity to show that, even in the face of adversity, we could make a meaningful difference in the community we call home.

Q8

Describe one chapter advocacy event that educates and involves members in ASDA's advocacy and legislative priorities. This excludes the submission of multiple events that are part of a single week-long or month-long challenge (250 word limit. Responses longer than 250 words will be cut.)

One of our ASDA chapter's main goals this year was to increase awareness and engagement in advocacy within the dental profession. As dental students, it's easy to focus on exams and practicals, but our journey goes beyond developing clinical skills. We are also preparing to become leaders who can create positive change in healthcare. Advocacy allows us to address key issues like diversity, equity, and inclusion, dismantling barriers in oral healthcare and promoting systemic change. To highlight this important aspect of our careers, we partnered with the Georgia Dental Association to host a "Red, White, and Brew" Trivia Night at a local brewery. The event was organized by our District 4 Advocacy Chair, Arezoo Kalan, Legislative Chair Tristian Pugh and GDA Liaison Samuel Cook. The event aimed to engage our members in a fun, interactive way while educating them on ASDA's advocacy priorities. During trivia, students learned how they can get involved in advocacy efforts, supporting legislative initiatives that affect the dental profession and patient care. Just as legislators shape policies that affect public health, dental students have a responsibility to actively engage in shaping the future of dentistry. By incorporating advocacy into our chapter activities, we empower our members to be more than just practitioners—they become leaders who advocate for positive change. Events like this show that advocacy isn't an add-on to our education, but an essential part of our development as well-rounded, impactful dental professionals.

Q9

Describe one chapter wellness event that educates members and involves members in ASDA's Five Dimensions of Wellness. This excludes the submission of multiple events that are part of a single week-long or month-long challenge (250 word limit. Responses longer than 250 words will be cut.)

Wellness Week at the Dental College of Georgia is a highly anticipated event, designed to immerse ASDA members in activities that highlight the importance of balance and well-being. This year, the free fitness classes offered at Oxygen Fitness became the standout feature, exemplifying how wellness spans ASDA's five dimensions. The classes, including barre, yoga, and spin, provided an accessible way for students to prioritize physical wellness by staying active during a demanding week. These midweek sweat sessions were more than just workouts; they offered a chance for students to reset emotionally, reinforcing emotional wellness by reducing stress and fostering a sense of accomplishment and mindfulness. By participating in these guided classes, students also embraced intellectual wellness, learning how physical activity can improve focus, resilience, and overall health—lessons that are especially important in a high-pressure field like dentistry. The classes encouraged students to step out of their routines, demonstrating that self-care is integral to occupational success. Additionally, partnering with Oxygen Fitness and other local businesses supported occupational wellness by fostering community connections that could inspire collaborations in their future careers. The partnership also emphasized environmental wellness, promoting engagement with the surrounding community and utilizing nearby resources to enhance well-being. The free fitness classes weren't just a break from the classroom—they were an education in how ASDA members can integrate these dimensions of wellness into their lives. This event underscored the message that by taking care of their health, students are better prepared to succeed personally, academically, and professionally.

Q10

Describe one chapter event that develops professional and leadership skills of chapter members. (250 word limit. Responses longer than 250 words will be cut.)

Our chapter is committed to fostering the professional and leadership development of our members, and one way we do this is through promoting civic engagement. This year, we participated in the "Donut Forget to Vote" campaign, which proved to be one of our most successful initiatives. With the presidential election taking place, it was crucial to remind our members of the importance of having their voices heard. The campaign combined an essential civic duty with an engaging, lighthearted approach—encouraging students to vote while enjoying a donut. The result was an impressive turnout: over 150 students participated, making our chapter the largest participating group in the country. This achievement is a testament to the strong sense of community and responsibility within our chapter. Through initiatives like this, we emphasize the importance of voting as part of leadership development. Encouraging civic participation helps students understand their role in shaping society and reinforces the values of accountability and informed decision-making—key traits of effective leaders. Beyond our regular Lunch and Learn events, campaigns like "Donut Forget to Vote" help our members develop essential professional skills such as organization, communication, and collaboration. By promoting civic engagement, we're empowering students to be informed voters and future leaders who will contribute meaningfully to the dental profession and beyond.

Q11

Describe one chapter communication (such as an enewsletter, the chapter website, or chapter social media campaign) that keeps members informed about ASDA. (250 word limit. Responses longer than 250 words will be cut.)

Following the successful debut of our renewed e-newsletter last year, we are excited to publish the 2nd and 3rd editions of Within the Margins this year. Our past and current chief editors, Juliann Marmal and Jasmine Canlas, have done an outstanding job curating these editions, delivering engaging content filled with member spotlights, chapter event recaps, and highlights of student life in Augusta. These editions offer a great opportunity to reflect on the wonderful events and achievements we've experienced throughout the school year. From celebrating individual accomplishments to showcasing the hard work and dedication of our members, Within the Margins serves as a meaningful way to connect and celebrate our community. Each issue provides a snapshot of our collective efforts, offering a space to appreciate both the milestones we've reached and the friendships we've built along the way. The e-newsletter has proven to be an invaluable tool for strengthening our chapter's sense of community and keeping everyone informed and engaged. With continued contributions from our talented members and editors, we look forward to sharing even more stories and memories in future editions of Within the Margins.

Q12

Respondent skipped this question

Upload the communication piece your chapter described in the communications category as a PDF or link below.

Q13

Add your communication piece link below.

https://www.canva.com/design/DAGL4uIZ3TQ/Is37DC9Q35J4n8tCsNNOfg/view?utm_content=DAGL4uIZ3TQ&utm_campaign=designshare&utm_medium=link2&utm_source=uniquelinks&utm_id=hcb2ff781ca

Q14

Submit your chapter's YouTube video link.

https://youtu.be/_Fxd_S_aPdE

Q15

Submit your chapter's Google Drive or DropBox video link.

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1xwzWEc-MDLNIFmQpkLWsCufHfU3VmN0J?usp=drive_link
