

February 11, 1971 – October 7, 1971

The American College of Prosthodontists: The First Year

by Dr. Bob Spruel

The first membership meeting of the American College of Prosthodontists (ACP) finally arrived on February 11, 1971, and was held at the Sheraton Blackstone Hotel in Chicago. It was at this meeting that the slate of officers was voted upon and the Constitution and Bylaws ratified.

There was drama that was unexpected and unwelcomed. The ad hoc Executive Committee was gathered in Ken Rudd's hotel room waiting for Ray Loiselle to come and open the meeting when the telephone rang. Pinky Smith told about his remembrance of that time in a recent letter.

I was nearest the phone, so when it rang I answered. It was Ray, calling from the Cardiac Intensive Care Unit of the Hines Veteran's Hospital. He had had a heart attack and would, of course, not be at the meeting. When I hung up the phone, I told the group what had happened and where Ray was. "Now who will conduct the meeting?" I was told "You answered the phone. You conduct the meeting!" That's how I ended up pro tem chairman for the initial meeting of the College.

According to minutes from the meeting (taken by Ken Rudds) the meeting was called to order by Edwin H. Smith, Jr. at 9:00am February 11, 1971 in the Embassy Room of the Sheraton Blackstone Hotel, Chicago, Illinois.

Mr. Harvey Sarner, Secretary of the Judicial Council of the ADA, affirmed the legality of the proposed Constitution and Bylaws. Copies of these had been distributed to all Fellows present and Bob Elliott's motion to accept the documents passed unanimously.

Bill Welker's motion to accept the slate of officers as presented by the nominating committee passed.

Louis Block, president of the Federation of Prosthodontic Organizations proposed holding annual scientific meetings in which all prosthodontic organizations would participate. He proposed to hold the first such meeting in Las Vegas, Nevada in October 1972 (To be known as the First International Prosthodontic Congress).

The question of joining the FPO led to a long and lively discussion. A motion to apply for membership passed.

It was also moved and passed to petition the Editorial Council of the *Journal of Prosthetic Dentistry* to make the JPD the official publication of the College.

It was voted to delay acceptance of associates and affiliates at that time.

The next Annual Session was set for Atlantic City, NJ on Thursday, October 7, 1971 during the ADA Scientific Session.

The new officers were installed by the pro tem chairman and the meeting was adjourned at 12:00 noon.

Ken Rudd's minutes are an accurate account of that first meeting. Left unsaid were the contents of the lively and sometimes heated discussions prior to the votes on some issues. It was a satisfying meeting, the culmination of two years of efforts.

Report to the members, Secretary Ken Rudd (June 1, 1971)

At this time there was no newsletter to inform the members of what had happened at the organization meeting and afterward. Ken Rudd assumed this responsibility, and in the June 1, 1971 letter brought the members up-to-date on that first meeting and subsequent activities.

The Atlantic City meeting had to be moved to Cherry Hill, NJ as no meeting sites were available in Atlantic City due to the Annual Session of the ADA being held there.

Application for membership in the FPO has been completed.

Louis Block notified the College on May 19, 1971 that the Editorial Council of the JPD approved the petition to make the journal the official publication of the American College of Prosthodontists.

All College funds to date were from initiation fees. The 1972 fiscal year of the College was to run from December 1, 1971 to November 31, 1972. The first dues statement would be mailed on November 1, 1971 and would be payable by December 1, 1971.

The Internal Revenue Service had approved the ACP as a tax-exempt non-profit organization.

Guests would be welcome at the Cherry Hill meeting and their names needed to be submitted to the Secretary by July 7, 1971.

Fellows desirous of becoming Life Fellows had to apply in writing before the October 7 Annual Session. Those eligible who did not want to become Life Fellows could retain active membership.

A proposed Bylaws change would require an application fee of \$25 from those applying for membership, in addition to the \$100 initiation fee. The \$25 would be non-refundable.

Ray Loiselle, in the meantime, had recovered from his heart attack and was busy with College affairs. Ten committees were activated by Ray after the organizational meeting. The pioneer committee chairman appointed by Ray and their committees are listed below:

Committee

1. Constitution and Bylaws
2. Membership

Chair

Anthony N. DeBello
James E. House

3. Education and Advancement	Robert C. Sproull
4. Dental Laboratory Relations	James T. Jackson
5. Public and Professional Relations	Bruce E. Stansbury
6. Publications and Liaison	Edwin H. Smith, Jr.
7. Annual Session –1971	Robert B. Peters
8. Annual Session – 1972	Keith Marcroft
9. Necrology	Walter j. Demar
10.Nominating Committee	Edwin H. Smith, Jr.

The Executive Council Meeting at Wright Patterson on March 13 was the first one after the College's organizational meeting and the adoption of the Constitution and Bylaws.

Article IV of the Constitution stated that "the Executive Council shall be elected according to the Bylaws and shall consist of the president, president-elect, vice president, secretary, treasurer, three delegates-at-large and two immediate past presidents. The business of the College shall be conducted by the Executive Council with the approval of the membership." Article III, Section I through 8 of the Bylaws spelled out the functioning of the Council.

At this meeting, Ray read a list of appointed committee chairmen and suggested that each write its own charge, to be reviewed and approved by the Executive Council.

It was moved and passed that application for membership forms be printed; color-coded name tags would be used to distinguish Fellows and Associates; Harvey Sarnier be paid a \$200 retainer fee for legal services; wording for membership certificates be approved; guests at Cherry Hill Inn meeting would be welcome and would be charged \$40; honorarium and per diem for speakers be set; letter of application for membership in the FPO be sent; a letter be sent to the JPD requesting the Journal be the official organ of the College; and other items (a total of 40) be acted upon.

John Giordona was appointed Local Arrangement Committee Chairman for Cherry Hill and Robert Peters was appointed Program Committee Chairman.

Louis Boucher, president-elect, appointed Keith Marcroft Annual Session Committee Chairman for the October 25, 1972 meeting in Las Vegas, NV.

The second meeting of the Executive Council was held at the Cherry Hill Inn on October 6, 1971, the day before the Annual Session. Committee reports were read and approved. It was voted unanimously to support with speakers The Prosthodontic Congress suggested by the FPO, to be held in Las Vegas in 1972.

Stephen Bartlett and Ken Rudd were appointed to attend an FPO workshop on Sunday, October 10, 1971 in Atlantic City, NJ.

The next scientific meeting (as it was called at that time) was scheduled for Wednesday, October 25, 1972 in Las Vegas.

The 2nd Annual Meeting of the College was a one-day program held at the Cherry Hill Inn Motel on October 7. The meeting began at 9:30am and was adjourned at 4:30pm. Four speakers were scheduled (Frank Celenza, William Best, Harold Westlake, and John Anderson). The business meeting was completed between 11:30am and 12:30pm.

The growth of the College from that early meeting until today is emphasized by the Spartan beginning. We've gone from a short one-day meeting at a small motel with a total of four speakers to the multiple day schedules with multiple choices of a wide variety of speakers, special sessions for special interests, a house of delegates, and multiple social functions and an Executive Director in Chicago. Quite a change!!

At the Cherry Hill Business Meeting the committees made their reports and Bylaws changes were approved. The discussion on Associate Member Status (privilege to vote) resulted in a decision to make no changes at the present.

The new officers elected by the members were inducted. The slate for the coming year was:

President	Louis Boucher
President-Elect	Alex Koper
Vice President	Keith Marcroft
Secretary	Ken Rudd
Treasurer	Steve Bartlett
Executive Committee	Phil Jones (One Year)
	John Sharpy (Two Years)
	Robert Kaplan (Three Years)

The next meeting was set for Wednesday, October 25, 1972 at the Las Vegas Hilton in Las Vegas, NV. The First International Prosthodontic Congress, sponsored by the FPO and hosted by the American Prosthodontic Society, was scheduled to begin on October 26 and to last until October 28, 1972. The College was to sponsor three speakers at the Congress. These speakers were: Carl O. Boucher, Vincent R. Tropozzano and Niles F. Guichet.

Dr. Mazheri moved that the College petition the ADA to have the College sponsor The American Board of Prosthodontics. The motion passed but was postponed indefinitely. (The first of many extended discussions at business meetings and elsewhere on sponsorships.)

The entire business meeting lasted for 29 minutes.

SUMMARY OF FIRST YEAR

Officers

President: Raymond J. Loiselle

President-Elect: Louis J. Boucher

Vice President: Alex Koper

Secretary: Kenneth D. Rudd

Treasurer: Stephen O. Bartlett

Delegates-at-Large: Ira Klein (1 year), Phillip M. Jones (2 years), John J. Sharpy (3 years)

Associate Editor Designate: Edwin H. Smith, Jr.

Committee

Constitution and Bylaws
Membership
Education and Advancement
Dental Laboratory Relations
Public and Professional Relations
Publications and Liaison
Annual Session – 1971
Annual Session – 1972
Necrology
Nominating Committee

Chair

Anthony N. DeBello
James E. House
Robert C. Sproull
James T. Jackson
Bruce E. Stansbury
Edwin H. Smith, Jr.
Robert B. Peters
Keith Marcroft
Walter J. Demar
Edwin H. Smith, Jr.

Organization Meeting: February 11, 1971 (Sheraton Blackstone Hotel – Chicago, IL)

Executive Council Meetings: March 13, 1971 (Wright Patterson Air Force Base – Dayton, OH)
October 6, 1971 (Cherry Hill Inn – Cherry Hill, NJ)

Annual Session: October 7, 1971 (Cherry Hill Inn – Cherry Hill, NJ)

Speakers: Frank Celenza, William Best, Harold Westlake, John Anderson.

The article entitled “The American College of Prosthodontists: The Early Years” that was published in the last issue (volume 32, issue 3) of the ACP Messenger was researched and written by Dr. Bob Spruell. The ACP would like to acknowledge and thank Dr. Spruell for all his time and effort he put into researching the history of the College, and providing the important documentation for future generation of members to enjoy.

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