



Two New At-Large Trustees Selected to Join AAO Board

The AAO House of Delegates met virtually on May 1, adopting a proposal aimed at diversifying the perspectives and expertise of those in senior leadership with the AAO. This week, the AAO would like to welcome two new, at-large trustees to the Board: **Dr. Alex Thomas of Greer, South Carolina** and **Dr. Dale Anne Featheringham of Dublin, Ohio**. These at-large trustees were selected based on demographic diversity and expertise. Both are now voting Board members. Each at-large trustee will serve for a term of up to three years.

The initiative is part of an ongoing effort reflecting the call for inclusivity within the AAO Strategic Plan. Related efforts by the AAO that focus on aiding emerging leaders in acquiring skills, knowledge and tools useful for advancement in leadership include:

- The annual Leadership Development Conference for emerging leaders;
- The online Leadership Network, a comprehensive resource for constituent and component leaders, also available to the entire AAO membership.

"The at-large trustees will hit the ground running," said AAO President, Dr. Chris Roberts. "They will have high-profile committee assignments where they will be able to make a difference immediately. They will take part in every aspect of service to our members, as do all of our trustees. We are all very excited about bringing in new Board members with a broad range of ideas reflecting those of our general membership, which we believe will help us better serve our members in a rapidly changing world."

View more on these new AAO Trustees below.



Alex Thomas, DMD, MS
Greer, South Carolina

Dr. Thomas is a practicing orthodontist with Nease & Higginbotham Orthodontics in Spartanburg, South Carolina. She earned her dental degree at the Medical University of South Carolina where she graduated second in her class. Dr. Thomas completed her residency and received a Masters in Orthodontics at the University of Michigan and served as Co-chair for the Graduate Orthodontic Resident Program and Resident Director for the AAOF. She and her husband Zack share a love of all things outdoors and play an integral part of her practice team, church family, and local community.



Dale Anne Featheringham,
DDS, MS, MBA
Dublin, Ohio

Dr. Featheringham is a practicing orthodontist with Smile Doctors Braces in Wooster, Ohio. She earned her bachelor's degree and MS Certificate in Orthodontics and completed her residency at Ohio State University. Dr. Featheringham has also served as an AAO Delegate Chair, GLAO President, Ohio Association of Orthodontists President and in several roles with the ADA. An avid Ohio State fan, Dr. Featheringham enjoys spending time with her family, playing an active role with her church and community, and rooting on the Buckeyes.

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