



Cultural Diversity in Dentistry Committee Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, July 22, 2009
San Francisco, CA

Members Present:

Luis Dominicus, DDS, Chair
Fran Burton, Public Member
Rebecca Downing, Public Member
Huong Le, DDS
Suzanne McCormick, DDS

Members Absent:

None

Staff Present:

Cathleen Poncabare, Executive Officer
Richard DeCuir, Assistant Executive Officer
Dawn Dill, Licensing & Exam Unit Manager
Sarah Wallace, Administrative Analyst
Donna Kantner, Legislative & Regulatory Analyst
Jocelyn Campos, Enforcement Coordinator
Jessica Olney, Examination & Licensing Analyst
LaVonne Powell, DCA Senior Staff Counsel
Kristy Schieldge, DCA Senior Staff Counsel
Gregory Salute, Deputy Attorney General

Dr. Dominicus, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:18 a.m. and established a quorum.

CUL 1: Workforce Shortages

Dr. Dominicus welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the Cultural Diversity in Dentistry Committee meeting. He reported that there are many different opinions regarding workforce shortages in California and the Legislature has tried to address the issue. He stated that there are two groups of under-represented ethnic groups that he would like to see the percentages in the workforce increase: the Hispanic ethnic group and the African American ethnic group.

Cathleen Poncabare, Executive Officer, reported that the Board was collecting workforce data through the survey mandated by AB 269. She stated that the survey captures data regarding workforce shortages as well as ethnicity and language. Ms. Poncabare informed the Board that a report would be presented at the next Board meeting. Fran Burton, Public Member, suggested working with the California Latino Caucus and the California Legislative Black Caucus to focus on the issue of workforce shortages.

Dr. Huong Le reported that the California Endowment funded the California Pipeline Partnership to provide a focus on the recruitment of under-represented ethnicities into dental schools. She stated that increased enrollment has been successful in the last five years and a detailed report would be released soon.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:31 a.m.