

Conference Message from Incoming President, Rob Pennington

Dearest DADD members,

As conference co-chair and incoming division president, I would like to express my gratitude for your support of our upcoming annual conference. Despite, the many challenges associated with the Covid-19 pandemic, we have received a record number of proposal submissions and will be able to provide a rich, diverse, and extensive schedule of conference sessions and activities. As you are aware, we have opted to present our conference in a hybrid format. We weighed this decision carefully and considered both the financial viability of the organization when breaking our contractual agreement with the conference hotel and of course, the safety of our members. The majority of our members will be attending virtually this year, but for the members joining us in Clearwater, we have worked with the conference hotel to ensure enhanced safety measures are in place. We will require on-site participants to adhere to mask, hand sanitizer, and social distancing guidelines during conference activities. Further, we have worked with the hotel to set room capacities and design meeting spaces that will permit participants to actively participate in sessions while maintaining social distances guidelines. Finally, we ask that you review the information on what to expect as a patron of Sheraton Sand Key Resort <https://whattoexpect.marriott.com/tpasi>. The safety of our membership is our utmost priority, so please don't be surprised if a board member, smiling under their mask, reminds you to "mask-up" or select another session that is not filled to capacity.

Again, we appreciate your continued support of DADD and are looking forward to seeing you in January, whether in person or virtually. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me or my co-chair and Conference Co-ordinator, Cindy Perras.

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