Society of American Indian Dentists
History and Growth
1990-2019
April 24-26, 1990
University of Colorado Health Sciences Center

• Dr. Blue Spruce, founder, calls an Organizational Meeting

• Discuss forming organization: Mission, Objectives, Logo, By Laws

• Non-profit

• Six charter members

• Incorporated several months later in Arizona

• Officers elected
April 24-26, 1990
University of Colorado Health Sciences Center

Society of American Indian Dentists (SAID) Meeting
(Organizational)

hosted by
University of Colorado Health Sciences Center

sponsored by
School of Dentistry
Office of Minority Student Affairs

From left to right: Dr. Jack Duran, Dr. Scott Bingham, Dr. Don Dexter, Dr. Betsy Tankersley, Dr. Darlene Sorrell and Dr. George Blue Spruce
June 4-6, 1991
Creighton University, Omaha, NE

- First official meeting
- Constitution and by-laws accepted unanimously
- Logo accepted
- Annual dues=$25
- Mission statement written
- Creighton President Father Phillip Morrison welcomes SAID
- Winnebago and Omaha Tribal dancers perform
July 14-16, 1992
Portland, Oregon

• Dr. Herman Fredenberg donates $1000

• SAID provides report to Division of Disadvantaged Assistance, Bureau of Health Professions

• Eight attendees

• SAID invited to join ADA Task Force on Minorities and Women
May 6-9, 1993
UCLA School of Dentistry

• Membership jumps to 25
June 9-11, 1994
University of Oklahoma College of Dentistry

• During annual Red Earth Native American Cultural Festival

• Sponsors cash prizes for Indian Health Service Dental Poster Contest
July 20-22, 1995
University of Minnesota

• 39 members

• SAID recognized by Chicago Dental Society special issue

• First Dental Student Chapter of SAID
June 6-9, 1996
University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center

• Meeting coincides with Red Earth Festival
July 13-16, 1997
Albuquerque, NM

• Distinguished Pueblo Tribal leader addresses SAID

• Group visits Cochiti Pueblo Feast
September 8-11, 1998
Polson, Montana

• Salish and Kootenai College, tribally owned and managed

• Dr. Richard Broderick, IHS Dental Branch Chief presents

• SAID Online  www.aaip.com/said/

Society of American Indian Dentists
June 21-25, 1999
In Albuquerque, NM

• Held during Indian Health Service Updates Course

June 11-15, 2000
Phoenix, Arizona

• Chris Halliday presents

• Gila River Indian Community Basket Singers performs

• Dr. Joseph Salkowitz, DMD refines SAID logo

• Dr. Herman Fredenberg initiates Dr. George Blue Spruce Scholarship
June 10-14, 2001
University of Colorado Health Sciences Center, Denver

• Largest number of CDE lectures offered at conference
• President of American Public Health Association gives banquet address
June 7-9, 2002
Las Vegas, Nevada

• Sponsors 2002 National American Indian Science and Engineering Fair
• Remembers Dr. Herman C. Fredenberg
• Use new logo designed by Dr. Salkowitz
June 6-8, 2003
Phoenix, Arizona

• Sponsored by the Arizona School of Dentistry and Oral Health

• Banquet at the World Famous Heard Museum

• World Champion San Carlos Apache Hoop Dancers perform
July 8-July 11, 2004
Polson, Montana

• Dr. Blue Spruce testifies before Congressional Committee

• Salish-Kootenai Tribal dancers performed

• Tour of large Buffalo reserve

• ASDOH establishes SAID student chapter
July 8-July 11, 2004
Polson, Montana
July 13-17, 2005
Albuquerque, New Mexico

• Albuquerque Journal features SAID in feature article

• American Indian dentists provide table clinics
May 18-21, 2006
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

• Coordination by Dr. Kevin Avery

• Red Earth Cultural Center Banquet

• Dr. Blue Spruce ends 16 years as President of SAID

• Dr. Dave Smith elected President, Society of American Indian Dentists
June 7-10, 2007
Mystic Lake, MN

• Famous Mystic Lake Casino Hotel hosts conference

• 2007 boasts largest ever participation

• New scholarship honoring Dr. George Blue Spruce Jr.
June 12-14, 2008
Scottsdale, AZ

• Radisson Fort McDowell Resort and Casino

• Toured ASDOH Dental School and A.T. Still University

April 30-May 3, 2009
Los Angeles, CA

• UCLA School of Dentistry
May 20-23, 2010
Omaha, NE

• SAID 20th Anniversary

• Creighton University
May 19-22, 2011
Ann Arbor, MI

• Dr. Ruth Bol elected SAID President

• Dr. Kenneth May is honored
July 20-24, 2012
Boca Raton, FL

• HDA, NDA and SAID Multi-Cultural Oral Health Summit

• Joint Leadership Education Program
July 20-24, 2012
Boca Raton, FL

Society of American Indian Dentists
May 30-June 2, 2013
Tulalip Bay, WA

• Pursuing Excellence in AI/AN Oral Health
• ASDOH graduates six (6) American Indian Dentists
• Tulalip Resort Casino with University of Washington School of Dentistry
• Tulalip Tribe's 22nd Annual Veterans Pow Wow
• Colgate Bright Smiles, Bright Futures event at Pow Wow
April 27-May 1, 2014
Albuquerque, New Mexico

• San Felipe Pueblo Feast

• Dr. Drew Preston’s inaugural meeting as President
April 27-May 1, 2014
Albuquerque, New Mexico
July 29-August 1, 2015
Washington, DC

• Banquet at the National Museum of the American Indian
• Dr. Darlene Sorrell elected president
June 21-25, 2016
Phoenix, AZ
June 21-24, 2017
Cincinnati, OH

• Procter & Gamble HQ Tour
• ADA President, Dr. Joseph Crawley attends
• Dr. Winifred J. Booker elected President

Society of American Indian Dentists
June 20-24, 2018
Seattle, WA

- Events held at University of Washington
- Dr. Winifred J. Booker begins second year as President
- First outreach event, in conjunction with conference, held at Chief Seattle Club
June 5-9, 2019
Oklahoma City, OK

- Oklahoma University provided many speakers
- Dr. Jeremy John elected President
- Colgate Bright Smiles Bright Futures Van outreach event held in conjunction with conference and Red Earth Festival
- SAID walked in the Red Earth Parade passing out toothbrushes and stickers, “See yourself becoming a dentist”
Mission of SAID

The purpose of the Society of American Indian Dentists is to:

a) Promote dental health in the American Indian community

b) Encourage American Indian Youth to pursue a career in the profession of dentistry

c) Serve as a resource for assistance to American Indian students interested in the profession of dentistry

d) Promote American Indian heritage and traditional values

e) Promote and support the unique concerns of American Indian Dentists

f) Provide role-model leadership