

# ABDPH Diplomates Meeting and Dinner

## 54th Meeting, May 3rd, 2004, Los Angeles Marriott Hotel, Los Angeles, California

I. **Call to Order:** President Raymond Kuthy called the 54th meeting of the diplomates to order at 7:30 PM and welcomed the 66 members and guests present.

A. There were eight past presidents in attendance. Dr. Kuthy recognized Dr. E. Joseph Alderman, Dr. Brian Burt, Dr. Robert Dumbaugh, Dr. Caswell Evans, Dr. Dushanka Kleinman, Dr. Jay Kumar, Dr. Linda Niessen, and Dr. Gary Rozier.

B. **Introduction of New Diplomates:** Dr. Kuthy introduced the following diplomates, who were certified in 2003, with a short biography and presented them with their board lapel pins: Dr. Wayne M. Deutsch, Dr. Barbara F. Gooch, Dr. Earl E. Guile, Dr. Umo O. Isong, Dr. Michael D. McCunriff, Dr. Susan W. Mongeau, and Dr. Athanasios I. Zavras. Dr. Robert E. Davenport, Dr. Christine K. Heng, and Dr. Arwa I. N. Owais, who were also certified in 2003, were not present.

C. Dr. Kuthy asked for a moment of silence for Dr. Viron Diefenbach, Dr. Keith Heller, Dr. Herschel Horowitz, Dr. William T. Johnson, Dr. E. Walter Welford, and Dr. Samuel J. Wycoff, who passed away during the past year.

D. The minutes of the 2003 meeting of diplomates as published in the *Journal of Public Health Dentistry* (Vol 63, Suppl 1, Fall 2003) were approved.

E. **Reregistration Fees:** Dr. Kuthy reminded the diplomates that reregistration fees, as mandated by the American Dental Association, are payable January 1 of each year. Notice is sent to active diplomates in December. Diplomates who do not pay their reregistration fee by March 1 are considered to be diplomates "not in good standing" at that time unless there are mitigating circumstances. A membership report is required by the Council on Dental Education and Licensure, ADA, by March 15 of each year, and includes membership status of all diplomates. Please complete your Continuing Education Reports and mail your reregistration fees in January.

## II. Report of the Executive Secretary

As of April 28, 2004, there were 150 certified active diplomates, 27 life members, and 28 inactive (retired), for a total of 205 living diplomates. Last year at this time, we had 143 active diplomates. This represents a net gain of 7 active diplomates. We have added 10 new diplomates but have lost 3 active diplomates: Drs. Heller, Horowitz, and Welford are deceased.

Five candidates took all or part of the board examination this year. A total of 16 dentists remain board eligible through 2008. Two dentists lost their eligibility this year after 5 years without completing the examination.

Three dentists will lose their eligibility if they do not take the 2005 examination.

## III. Report of Officers and Directors

A. **Treasurer's Report:** Dr. Dumbaugh reported that the financial records have been audited by Dr. Collins, vice president/auditor, and were accepted as accurate. The board began the fiscal year on May 1, 2003, with a total bank balance of \$35,016.40. Income during the year, which consisted of application and examination fees, reregistration fees, and receipts for the board dinner meeting amounted to \$22,111.94. The opening bank balance plus income amounted to \$57,128.34. Total expenditures for the year were \$20,329.12. These include travel and per diem expenses for board directors and officers to the annual meeting, costs for the Board Dinner and lunches at the meeting, executive secretary honorarium, certificate graphics and lamination, office expenses, printing, and insurance. The result is a checking account balance of \$35,548.14 or roughly a \$650.00 increase from last year. This figure includes a restricted fund of \$3,600.15 for the expenses of the annual board symposium. No funds were drawn from this account last year.

In addition to the checking balance, the board also carries a certificate of deposit of \$12,159.11. Income from interest in FY 2004 was \$197.30. Thus, the total funds available to the board are \$47,707.25, about \$850.00 higher than last year, and the highest amount in our history.

B. **President's Report:** Dr. Kuthy provided comments on his seven years on the board. He also noted several activities during this past year: The Board of Directors:

- relocated the national office. He expressed thanks to Dr. Dumbaugh for his efforts during the transition.
- established improved electronic communications within the board.
- set up an access file to improve access to membership information, and to hopefully enhance communication with all diplomates electronically in the future.
- revised the ABDPH brochure and put it on the Web site.
- was represented by Dr. Robert Collins at the February 2004 Dental Public Health Workforce workshop.

In addition, Drs. Kuthy and Dumbaugh participated in the annual meeting of the boards of all

ADA-recognized specialties. From the perspective of membership and finances, we are on the smaller end. Some of the larger boards have gone to more sophisticated testing methodologies:

- The American Board of Endodontics has contracted with the Kaplan Centers nationally to administer their written examination on a specific date each year.
- The American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery (ABOMS) is considering going to competency testing online, administering multiple-choice questions on the computer. The test would begin at the midpoint of a competency area, and depending whether the candidate answers correctly or not, the questions would become progressively less or more difficult until the competency level of the candidate is determined and graded accordingly.
- Some boards hire individuals to conduct the examination for them. Others hire external reviewers to validate the test results.

The ABOMS has dropped the term "board eligible." It had become apparent that hospitals and other accrediting bodies were confused by that term. Therefore, in the eyes of the ABOMS, oral surgeons are either boarded or not boarded. Other boards that deal with hospital appointments are also considering this move.

Dr. Kuthy noted that he is not recommending changes in our eligibility or testing procedures at this time, but he wanted to keep the diplomates informed of various variations in the way the examination procedures are conducted.

Drs. Kuthy and Dumbaugh attended the annual meeting of the ADA Council on Dental Accreditation and Licensure. The primary topic of discussion related to the issue of nonrecognized specialty groups, including the National Council on Dental Credentialing Organizations, the National Association of Implant Dentistry, the American Asso-

ciation of Cosmetic Dentistry, the International Association of Orthodontics. All of the specialties noted that the ADA's decision to *not* take a stand against these nonrecognized specialties represented a de facto approval of these groups as specialties, even though these groups were not recognized by the ADA. Discussion continues, and we will keep current with this issue.

Last year, Dr. Lotzkar was asked to write a historical review of the board from 1973 to 2003. The first 23 years (1950–73) had been summarized by Dr. Ken Easlick, and we are attempting to have his document placed on the Web. Dr. Lotzkar has completed a 44-page document that is being reviewed jointly between our board and AAPHD to explore placing this document on the Web with hard copies available to diplomates.

The board is discussing the feasibility of developing an interactive Web site with AAPHD that would enable diplomates to enter continuing education credits online. We have a requirement for 100 hours of continuing education (CE) over a 10-year period for all diplomates certified during and after the year 2000. Submission of credits must accompany the payment of the annual reregistration fee. We also encourage all diplomates certified before 2000 to voluntarily submit their CE credits at the time they pay their annual reregistration fee. The capability for online submission of CE credits would make things a little easier to reregister each year. The annual submission of the CE report is required, whether or not CE courses were attended during the previous year.

The board began the process of self-assessment this year. We are looking at several issues:

- purpose of the board
- roles and responsibilities of the board
- examination process and testing instruments
- effectiveness of the testing process

### American Board of Dental Public Health Names New Diplomates

Dr. Robert J. Collins, Jr., president of the American Board of Dental Public Health (ABDPH), announced that the following dentists have passed the board certification examination given in 2004 and are now diplomates of the board: Dr. William D. Bailey, Dr. Georgia G. dela Cruz, and Dr. Arlene M. Lester.

Dr. Collins also announced that the next board examination will be given on April 29–May 1, 2005, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, at the William Penn Hotel. Application forms and/or information concerning the requirements for board certification may be obtained on the ABDPH link through the AAPHD Web site at [www.aaphd.org](http://www.aaphd.org). Those without access to the Internet can obtain an application packet by writing to Dr. Robert H. Dumbaugh, Executive Secretary, ABDPH, 892 Overbrook Place, West Palm Beach FL 33413, or by e-mail at [ABDPH@bell-south.net](mailto:ABDPH@bell-south.net). Applications will be accepted at any time, but must be received by September 15th of the year prior to that in which a candidate wishes to take the examination. Once declared board-eligible, a candidate must take and pass the examination within a five-year period.

- involvement of diplomates in the business of the board
- administrative requirements to meet board responsibilities

Dr. Kuthy thanked Dr. Lotzkar, Dr. Dumbaugh, and all board directors with whom he served during the past seven years, for their guidance. Dr. Kuthy stated that it has been a real joy to work with all of these professionals, and that he is still humbled by the board experience.

Dr. Kuthy thanked AAPHD President Candace Jones and Executive Director Pam Tolson who have been helpful this past year, and who have opened the dialogue between both organizations this past year.

Dr. Kuthy asked for input from the diplomates regarding limiting the number of times a candidate may take all or parts of the certification examina-

tion within the five-year window of eligibility. Comments were received and will be considered by board directors.

Dr. Kuthy introduced the new officers and directors of the board. They are Dr. Robert (Skip) Collins, president; Dr. Terri Dolan, vice president-auditor; Dr. B. Alexander White, treasurer; Dr. Reginald Louie, director; Dr. Isabel Garcia, director; and Director-elect Dr. Catherine Hayes.

Dr. Kuthy gave special thanks to Drs. Jim Freed and Les Block for proctoring the written examination last Friday.

Dr. Kuthy turned the chair over to Incoming President Dr. Robert Collins, who praised Dr. Kuthy's contribution to the board during his seven-year commitment, and presented him with the President's Plaque. The business meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

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