

## Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Diplomates

October 16, 1997  
Washington, DC

I. Call to Order: President Niessen called the 47th meeting of diplomates to order at 8:30 PM and welcomed the 57 members and guests present.

A. There were nine past presidents in attendance who were introduced and recognized by Dr. Niessen: Dr. E. Joseph Alderman, Dr. Myron Allukian, Dr. Joe Doherty, Dr. Chester Douglass, Dr. John Greene, Dr. Herschel Horowitz, Dr. Dushanka Kleinman, Dr. Stanley Lotzkar, and Dr. R. Gary Rozier.

B. Dr. Niessen introduced the following diplomates who were certified in 1996-97 and presented them with their lapel pins: Dr. Joseph W. Karitis, Lieutenant Commander US Navy. His position is director, Information Management/Information Technology at the National Naval Dental Center in Bethesda, MD; Dr. Rebecca S. King, who is currently deputy director of the Division of Dental Health, NCDEHNR, and residency codirector for the North Carolina Dental Public Health Residency Program; Dr. Thomas Leiendecker, who is currently assigned to the Center for Oral Health Studies at the Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences, Bethesda, MD; Dr. Ana K. Mascarenhas, assistant professor, Section of Health Services Research, College of Dentistry, Ohio State University, who also has a joint appointment in the Division of Epidemiology and Biometrics in the School of Public Health; Dr. Sena Narendran, assistant dean for student affairs and associate professor in health promotion at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio.

Dr. Abed Al-Hadi Hamasha, who is an assistant professor at Jordan University of Science and Technology in Irbid, Jordan, was unable to attend.

C. The minutes of the 1996 meeting of the diplomates as published in the *Journal of Public Health Dentistry* were approved.

II. Report of the Executive Secretary.

Dr. Lotzkar reported on the status of board membership as of October 12, 1997. There were 127 active diplomates, 31 life members, and 20 inactive (retired) members, for a total of 178. The 127 active members represent a net gain of three members. We added six new diplomates as a result of last year's examination, and lost three active diplomates through retirement

and/or conversion to life membership—Drs. Durward Collier, Major Tappan, and Viron Diefenbach. Five candidates took the certification examination this year. There are currently 24 board-eligible candidates, down three from last year. There are seven board-eligible candidates who will lose their eligibility unless they take the 1998 examination or elect to maintain their eligibility for another five years.

III. Reports of Officers and Members.

A. Dr. Lotzkar reported that as of September 18, 1996, the board had a total of \$18,708.22 in the checking account. On October 7, 1997, the balance stood at \$22,175.71, representing an increase of \$3467.49 for the year. This year is probably the best financial position the board has ever been in at the start of a fiscal year.

In analyzing the budget, income for the year 1996-97 was almost exactly the same as for 1995-96, differing by only about \$70.00. The difference has been in the reduction of expenses. Having the meeting in Orlando within easy traveling distance of most of the board directors reduced traveling expenses considerably compared with last year in Las Vegas.

On an item basis, interest from the checking account was approximately the same. Application fees were identical. There was a large difference in examination fees, however—\$1,200 this past year compared to \$2,150 a year ago. However, we collected \$9,370 in re-registration fees compared with \$8,940 a year ago, an increase of \$430. The AAPHD subsidy remained the same at \$2,000, and we are very appreciative of their support.

On the debit side, travel and per diem expenses for the board directors and executive secretary to the examination site were \$2,215 less than a year ago. As noted earlier, this is a variable expense that will no doubt increase for the 1998 meeting in San Francisco and the 1999 meeting in Honolulu. Liability insurance expenses have remained the same at \$713 and have remained constant for the last five years, no doubt because of our low risk record. ADA meeting expenses for an August meeting of the accredited specialty boards was essentially the same as last year and the expenses for running the office of the executive secretary rose about \$150.

B. Dr. Niessen reported that this was a very strategic year for public health dentistry. We revised and approved the competencies that define our spe-

cialty and that indicate which skills diplomates are expected to have. The board has also reviewed the draft standards, which incorporated the competencies into our educational standards. But probably the most significant thing we accomplished this year was the development of a recertification procedure with a time limited certificate. Candidates taking the board examination in the year 2000 will be awarded a certificate that will expire in 10 years. For those who were certified before 2000, there will be a voluntary recertification program starting in January 2000 with the opportunity to recertify at any time within the next 10 years. The recertification process will be in continuing education hours, including papers, manuscripts, oral presentations, and probably a committee will be appointed by the board to define the credits associated with each of these activities.

The last issue the board discussed is related to a code of ethics for dental public health specialists—specifically, whether we need our own code of ethics or should adopt the code of ethics developed by the American Association of Public Health Dentistry. The board decided that we would subscribe to the AAPHD code. Dr. Niessen made available to the diplomates at the meeting the draft competency objectives developed at a workshop last May, as well as material describing the recertification process.

Dr. Niessen then introduced the officers of the board for 1997–98. Dr. Steve Corbin will be the incoming president; Dr. Jay Kumar, vice president-auditor; and Dr. Bob Dumbaugh, treasurer. The new director-elect is Dr. Ray Kuthy.

Dr. Steve Corbin was then introduced and presented the President's Plaque to Dr. Niessen for her six years of devoted service to the board.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 PM.

### ABDPH DIPLOMATES

Dr. Steve Corbin, president of the American Board of Dental Public Health, announced that the following dentists have passed the board certification examination and are now diplomates of the board: Dr. Monica A. Fisher, Ann Arbor, Michigan; Dr. Sharon M. Gordon, Bethesda, Maryland; Dr. Keith E. Heller, Ann Arbor, Michigan; and Dr. G. M. Nana Lopez, Austin, Texas.

Dr. Corbin also announced that the board examination will be given on October 18–20, 1998, in San Francisco, California, and on October 3–5, 1999, in Honolulu, Hawaii. Application forms and/or information concerning the requirements for board certification may be obtained by writing to Dr. Stanley Lotzkar, 1321 NW 47th Terrace, Gainesville, FL 32605, or by telephone (352)378-6301 or by e-mail at [standen@nersp.nerdc.ufl.edu](mailto:standen@nersp.nerdc.ufl.edu). Applications will be accepted at any time, but must be received by January 15th of the year in which you wish to take the examination. Once declared board eligible, the examination must be taken within a five-year period.