

# ABDPH Diplomates Meeting

**55<sup>th</sup> Meeting, May 2nd, 2005, Omni William Penn Hotel, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania**  
**Robert H. Dumbaugh, DDS, MPH, Executive Secretary**

- I. Call to Order: President Robert J. Collins, Jr. called the 55<sup>th</sup> meeting of the diplomates to order at 7:20 pm and welcomed the 64 members and guests present.
  - A. There were ten past presidents in attendance. Dr. Collins recognized Dr. Myron Allukian, Dr. E. Joseph Alderman, Dr. Brian Burt, Dr. Robert Dumbaugh, Dr. Caswell Evans, Dr. Dushanka Kleinman, Dr. Jay Kumar, Dr. Ray Kuthy, Dr. Linda Niessen, and Dr. Gary Rozier.
  - B. Introduction of New Diplomates: Dr. Collins introduced the following diplomates, who were certified in 2004, with a short biography and presented them with their Board lapel pins: Dr. William Bailey, Dr. Georgia del Cruz, and Dr. Arlene Lester.
  - C. Dr. Collins asked for a moment of silence for Dr. Polly Ayers who passed away during the past year. Dr. Joseph Alderman offered a tribute to the memory of Dr. Ayers who served as his residency director.
  - D. The minutes of the 2004 Meeting of Diplomates, as published on page 561 in the *Journal of Public Health Dentistry* (Vol. 64, Supplement 1, Fall 2004), were approved.
  - E. Reregistration Fees: Dr. Collins 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. Diplomates were asked to complete their Continuing Education Reports and mail their reregistration fees in January.

## II. Report of the Executive Secretary.

Dr. Dumbaugh presented the Membership Report. As of December 31, 2004, there were 153 certified Active diplomates, 28 Life members, and 28 Inactive (retired) diplomates for a total of 208 living diplomates. This represents a net gain of 2 Active diplomates. We have added 3 new diplomates, but lost 1 active diplomate in 2004. Dr. Esther Colchamiro has been ill and has decided to transfer to Inactive status. (Dr. Polly Ayers passed away in 2005, and her loss will be reported in the 2006 Membership Report). No Life Members passed away in 2004.



*Left to right: New Diplomates Cruz, Bailey, and Lester*

Seven candidates took the examination this year. We have a total of 14 board eligible dentists; Dr. Rufus Caine and Dr. Kavita Ahluwalia lost their eligibility at the close of this examination after 5 years of eligibility without sitting for the examination. .

Three dentists will lose their eligibility if they do not pass the exam in 2006:

- Dr. Frank Flores
- ♦ Dr. Michelle Henshaw
- ♦ Dr. Kishore Shetty

## III. Report of Officers and Directors.

A. Treasurer's Report. Dr. Dumbaugh reported that the financial records have been audited by Dr. Dolan, Vice President/Auditor, and were accepted as accurate. A new budget format that compares revenues expenses over the past three years was distributed to the diplomates. The board began the fiscal year on April 23, 2004 with a total bank balance of \$35,548.14. Income during the year, which consisted of Application and Examination fees, reregistration fees, and receipts for the Board Dinner Meeting, amounted to \$21,030.00. The opening bank balance plus income amounted to \$56,578.14. Total expenditures for the year were \$17,917.88. 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 meet-

ing, executive secretary honorarium, certificate graphics and lamination, office expenses, printing, and insurance. The result is a checking account balance of \$38,660.26 or a \$3,112.12 increase over last year. This figure includes a restricted fund of \$2,342.83 for the expenses of the annual Board Symposium. \$1,257.32 was drawn from this account last year.

In addition to the checking balance, the Board also carries a Certificate of Deposit of \$12,272.08. Income from interest in FY 2004 was \$112.97. Thus, the total funds available to the Board are \$50,932.34, which is \$3,225.09 higher than last year, and the highest amount in our history.

B. President's Report: Dr. Collins provided comments on his seven years on the Board. He also noted several activities during this past year as follows:

The board began a strategic planning process this year, including the development of Vision and Mission statements for the board. The board feels it is time we begin to respond to activities that are taking place outside the immediate scope of the examination process and the granting of diplomate status. The Vision and Mission statements will assist us in this effort. 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
- ♦ involvement of diplomates in the business of the Board
- ♦ administrative requirements to meet Board responsibilities

Dr. Dumbaugh will be leaving his duties as Executive Secretary at the end of the 2006 examination session. In the past, our Executive Secretary has been a past president of the Board. The Board will review the responsibilities of the Executive Secretary position with the goal of possibly transferring some of the administrative responsibilities to the AAPHD Central Office, allowing the Executive Secretary to devote more time to the increasing professional side of the position. Reallocation of duties and recruitment of a replacement for Dr. Dumbaugh will be a high priority of the strategic planning process.

At our board business meeting, an interim policy was established that would permit a candidate who failed the examination for the third time to take the examination an additional two times at no additional cost.



*Left to right: ABDPH Presidents Skip Collins, 2004, and Terri Dolan, 2005*

We approved, on a pilot basis, an effort to disaggregate the written portion of the examination from the other four parts. The candidate would be given the option of sitting for the written component, and if successful in passing it, could complete the remaining parts of the examination at a subsequent session of the board. The alternative method would be to complete the entire examination at one sitting, as the format has been in the past. The board believes that the option of disaggregating the written might offer an incentive for some candidates to begin the examination process at a slower pace.

In addition, Drs. Collins and Dumbaugh participated in the annual meeting of the boards of all ADA recognized specialties. A proposal to form an organization of specialty boards was defeated, primarily because the currently existing informal forum for discussion of dental specialty issues was determined to be working relatively well.

*The History of the American Board of Dental Public Health from 1973 – 2003* was accepted by the board. The board recognized the efforts of Dr. Stan Lotzkar in writing that document. Dr. Collins also recognized the efforts of Drs. Joe Doherty and Gary Rozier in reviewing that document and making some suggestions for editing.

The board accepted the invitation of the Executive Council of the AAPHD to cosponsor a breakfast at

the *Celebration of 60 Years of Water Fluoridation* to be held at the ADA headquarters in Chicago.

The application for ABDPH Board Eligibility and the Continuing Education Reporting form are now available through the ABDPH link on the AAPHD website at [www.aaphd.org](http://www.aaphd.org). The forms must still be mailed to the Executive Director with supporting documents, but they can now be downloaded as Word documents and completed electronically. Appreciation was expressed to Pam Tolson, Executive director, AAPHD, for her valuable assistance in this effort.

Appreciation was also expressed to Dr. Bob Weyant for proctoring the written examination for this year's candidates.

In closing, Dr. Collins thanked several individuals for their support during his seven years as a director of the Board. He noted that, as the responsibilities of the board are broadened, more help and involvement will be sought from our diplomates at large.

Dr. Collins introduced the new Officers and Directors of the Board. They are: Dr. Teresa Dolan, President, Dr. B. Alexander White, Vice President-Auditor, Dr. Reginald Louie, Treasurer, Dr. Isabel Garcia, Director, Dr. Catherine Hayes, Director, and Dr. Rebecca King, Director-Elect

C. Dr. Collins turned the chair over to the incoming president Dr. Teresa Dolan, who expressed the appreciation of the board for Dr. Collins' seven years of diligent service, and presented him with the President's Plaque. At this time, Dr. Collins passed the gavel to Dr. Dolan, who opened the floor to questions.

Dr. Maas stated that officials from Kansas are attending the meeting in an effort to recruit for the position of State Dental Director of Kansas.

Dr. Jay Kumar brought up the educational standards for board eligibility, noting that recruitment for residency programs is becoming more difficult. He stated that several years ago, he and Dr. Linda Niessen and Dr. Steve Corbin were involved in writing the standards.

Motion by Dr. Kumar to ask the board to look into the development of a policy that will be more inclusive in recognizing training comparable to the MPH degree to allow more flexibility in granting eligibility to sit for the examination. This would aid in the recruitment for residency programs. Seconded by Dr. John Brown. Motion passed. Dr. Dolan stated that, in August, we will discuss this issue with the ADA staff to the Council on Dental Education and Licensure to determine what flexibility we have in this area.

The business meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM