For those of you that attended the AAE15 meeting in Seattle, I’m sure you would agree that it was very successful. It provided us with an opportunity to hear the keynote speaker describe the future, be introduced to the new AAE administration and participate in second-to-none educational programs.

During the Grossman Award Ceremony, the College of Diplomates thanked Dr. Ken Spolnik for his leadership during the past year and offered gratitude to Dr. Shep Goldstein for seven years of service to the Board. Many exciting changes were implemented during Dr. Spolnik’s administration. The most obvious was the conversion of the traditional Grossman Luncheon to a Grossman Ceremony and Reception. This change, suggested by the American Board of Endodontics, was a collaborative effort by the ABE and the COD. It provided a dignified ambiance well deserved by the recipients.

The COD also held its annual meeting and a special honor was given to Dr. Keith Krell for his outstanding effort to assist those undertaking the Board Certification Process during the Ceremony. In addition, the membership voted in the new leadership. As the elected President, I would like to thank the Board of Directors and the COD membership for their confidence in my ability to steer the COD in the coming year. With the help of the Board of Directors I look forward to our upcoming events and I welcome any ideas you have.

Earlier this year, the COD and the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Dentistry cosponsored the annual Board Review Course and Scientific Update. This program was well attended and demonstrated the commitment of the COD to support Candidates in the Board Process, as well as Diplomates in need of recertification credits and endodontists looking for continuing education.

Next year’s course will be cosponsored by the University of Tennessee Health Science Center in Memphis, January 22–24, 2016. Details are posted on the COD website (and registration is open) with more information added as it becomes available.

The next Summer Conference, scheduled for September 2016 at Chateau Elan in Braselton, Georgia, will be an outstanding combination of social and intellectual camaraderie. Initial information is posted on the COD website and registration will open early next year.

Many new Diplomates have earned their pins over the past few years and the Board of Directors would like to personally invite them to participate in the College of Diplomates. New members—please keep an eye out for a call or email from one of our BOD members. Many opportunities are available for new members to help others gain their Diplomate status just as they did. Your participation in the COD is welcome.

Have a great rest of the year!
The Role of a Good Mentor

Dr. Priya S. Chand
Director of Mentoring

As I write another article for this newsletter, I am pleasantly surprised at the continuous increase in the number of Candidates going through the Board Certification Process. Achievement of Diplomate status is a great milestone in the career of an endodontist. Indeed, it is reassuring to see such a tremendous change within a few short years as so many have come to recognize this. It wasn’t long ago that only 20–25 Candidates per session sat for the Orals, traditionally the final hurdle to Diplomate status. The tide has turned and it is not uncommon to see almost 100 Candidates per session. The eagerness demonstrated by Candidates to complete the process is encouraging and important for the endodontic community as a whole.

However, there are always unforeseen issues that arise. It is understood by all who have completed the process that having a mentor to help guide them through the process was critical. This begs the question, “How can I become a good mentor?” For me, it was a rather simple answer. I recognized the commitment and the desire to give back to the endodontic community that was so freely given to me—the opportunity to be the best.

Mentoring Candidates for the exams and helping them succeed is a valuable experience that is immensely gratifying. Mentors put their own experiences to the test, and honestly help nurture a diverse group of potentially successful Candidates. This is accomplished by working with Candidates individually or in small groups to help them identify weaknesses or deficiencies in their preparation for any or all portions of the exam. In addition, a good mentor is a cheerleader and a good listener. A mentor understands the challenges many Candidates have trying to balance school, family, work and finances, while at the same time preparing for each step of the process. All of the mentors are dedicated and deeply involved in their commitment to help facilitate a Candidate’s successful completion of the Board process. In fact, we have tracked the success rate of those Candidates who were unsuccessful prior to having a mentor and have found a very high correlation of success among Candidates who have sought a mentor’s help prior to retaking the boards.

I am happy to report again this year that a sizeable pool of Candidates elected to pair with mentors in their journey. The momentum is growing as more newly Board-certified endodontists make the commitment to help the next group prepare for the fall exams. Toward this goal, with the COD, I am working to develop a network that will help support our Candidates located throughout the country and internationally.

To all Candidates, I ask that no matter where you are in the process, seek guidance from your program chairs, your peers, area study clubs and the COD. Remember, mentors come in all shapes and sizes, formal or not. In addition, the COD sponsors a Board Review Course and Scientific Update that is offered annually (see page 6 for more information). Dr. Keith V. Krell’s conference call, held twice a year, is always well attended and very helpful, especially for those taking the Oral portion of the exam. The schedule for these calls is posted on the COD website, www.collegeofdiplomates.org, at least two weeks prior to the call and a month before the Oral exam date. Candidates are advised of the upcoming calls well in advance by email. In addition, the audio recordings are accessible on the COD website.

My hope is to continue increasing the number of mentors to help Candidates, especially those from the West Coast. Those interested in mentoring are encouraged to contact either COD Executive Secretary Stacy Bogard at codabe96@comcast.net or myself at endodent2002@gmail.com.
Save the Dates

2016 Summer Conference

Sept. 14 – 18, 2016
Château Élan Winery & Resort,
Braselton, Ga.

Earn 12 CE Credits!

Morning educational sessions on topics at the forefront of the endodontic specialty (earn 12 CE credits!) are followed by afternoons free to explore the local area and network with fellow attendees and speakers.

Conference attendance is open only to Diplomates and Candidates currently in the Board Certification Process.

Bookmark www.collegeofdiplomates.org for updates
COD Board of Directors Updates

Dr. Keith Krell Receives Appreciation Award
As a profession, we are lucky to have several true Diplomates who have exemplified the importance of Board certification. One of these individuals who has gone above and beyond in helping the specialty as a whole, but particularly the College of Diplomates is Dr. Keith V. Krell. His efforts were recognized during the Louis I. Grossman Ceremony in Seattle on May 7, during which he was presented with an Award of Appreciation.

A Diplomate since 1986, he has been assisting the College for several years as an ABE consultant and initiated conference calls prior to the Oral Exams to share tips and tricks directly with Candidates. Many have found this to be an invaluable experience with an average of 50 Candidates participating on each call. This is just one example of what an immense contribution he has made to Board certification. The College greatly appreciates everything he has done and continues to do.

Thank You Dr. Spolnik!
Dr. Kenneth J. Spolnik served as President of the COD Board for 2014-2015. His term ended at the Grossman Ceremony this past May where he was recognized for his service. Dr. Spolnik was instrumental in organizing last year’s Board Review Course and Scientific Update at Indiana University. He will serve as Immediate Past President this year before rotating off the Board.

“My past year as President of the COD was both rewarding and encouraging,” shared Dr. Spolnik. “Our Board of Directors and executive secretary were wonderful to work with and I know the future of our organization is in great hands as we move forward. One accomplishment that I feel fortunate to have played a role in was the change in format of our Grossman Luncheon.

I believe this new format more appropriately recognized the new Diplomates and many of the Diplomates expressed this same sentiment. It was a privilege to serve as President of the COD this past year.”

Dr. Raphael Garofalo Joins the Board
Dr. Raphael R. Garofalo of Pointe Claire, Quebec, is the newest Director on the COD Board. He received both his D.D.S. and B.Sc. from McGill University in 1998, and obtained his Certificate in Endodontics from Nova Southeastern University in 2002. Dr. Garofalo became a Diplomate in 2009.

He is a co-founder of the Centre Endodontique de Montreal and was on staff at McGill University in Montreal as a clinical instructor for 10 years. His professional affiliations include the American Association of Endodontists and the Canadian Academy of Endodontics. In addition, he is a Fellow of the Royal College of Dentists of Canada. Dr. Garofalo has been President of both the Quebec Association of Endodontists and the Montreal Dental Club, and served as an Examiner for the Royal College of Dentists of Canada for eight years.

“As the only Canadian Director of the College of Diplomates, I feel that I am in a good position to help give the College of Diplomates a stronger presence in Canada, as well as to encourage the growing number of Canadian endodontists to become Board certified,” Dr. Garofalo shared. “Being a member of the Board reaffirms my commitment to the certification process and allows me to better appreciate my profession. I look forward to exchanging ideas with my fellow Board members and colleagues.”

Special Recognition—Dr. Matthew Detar
The COD Board of Directors would like to recognize Dr. Matthew Detar of Manassas, Va., for the updates he recently made, with contributions by Drs. Richard D. Archer and Tareq Al-Ali, to the ABE Index Card Literature Guide for the Oral Exam that is now available on the COD website.

A recent graduate of Virginia Commonwealth University, Dr. Detar made the updates while preparing for the Oral Exam in fall 2014. The original guide was prepared by Drs. Randolph Todd, Colleen Shull and Steven Tsoucaris.

The guide can be accessed at www.collegeofdiplomates.org/boardpreparation/study aids/.

Treasurer’s Report as of May 29, 2015

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Respectfully Submitted,
Kirk A. Coury, D.D.S., M.S.
2015 Board Review Course and Scientific Update Wrap-Up

March 27 – 29, University of Missouri-Kansas City

The 5th Annual Board Review Course and Scientific Update was held in March with 155 attendees. The course aids Candidates preparing for the American Board of Endodontics’ certification examinations, Diplomates needing recertification credits and all dentists interested in endodontic continuing education credits. The course is conducted annually in the spring, jointly sponsored by the COD and an ADA-recognized endodontic program at a university in the United States that changes each year. A series of speakers cover a wide spectrum of endodontic topics through lecture presentations. See page 6 for information on next year’s program.

Highlights of the 2015 Louis I. Grossman Ceremony and Reception

May 7, Sheraton Seattle

Congratulations to the 79 new Diplomates who were recognized during this year’s Grossman Ceremony. A Reception followed the pin presentation where the recipients were able to mingle with mentors, family and fellow Diplomates. All photos can be viewed on Flickr at https://flic.kr/s/aHskbnkeeJ.
The 6th Annual
College of Diplomates
Board Review Course & Scientific Update

January 22–24, 2016
in partnership with
UTHSC College of Dentistry, Memphis

The most comprehensive preparatory course for ABE examination & scientific update on endodontics from world experts

- Open to everyone: candidates, endodontists & residents
- Contemporary: learn current best evidence from leaders in endodontics
- Earn 17.5 CE hours in 2½ days
- Memphis: easy to get to hub in the Mid-South

Featured Speakers
Dr. Fred Barnett
Dr. Louis Berman
Dr. George Bruder
Dr. Paul Eleazer
Dr. Ashraf Fouad
Dr. Shimon Friedman
Dr. Ken Hargreaves
Dr. John Hellstein
Dr. Bradford Johnson
Dr. Christine Sedgley

Vendor exhibits
Wine & Cheese Reception

diplomates educating future diplomates & enjoying southern hospitality

Registration open today at www.collegeofdiplomates.org
# 6th Annual College of Diplomates Board Review Course & Scientific Update

January 22–24, 2016 in partnership with UTHSC College of Dentistry, Memphis

## Registration Form

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**DO YOU HAVE ANY DIETARY RESTRICTIONS? IF SO, PLEASE LIST THEM HERE.**

**Registration Rates**

- **Endodontist** $800
- **Resident or Post-Grad Student** $400
- **Retired/Disabled** $400
- **Military (Active Duty)** $500
- **Full-Time Faculty** $500
- **Recent Endo Grad (within last 2 years)** $400

**Required Response** I plan to attend the Wine and Cheese Reception on Friday, January 22.

- [ ] Yes  [ ] No

**Registration** Direct registration available on website [www.collegeofdiplomates.org](http://www.collegeofdiplomates.org).

**Fax Form to** 888/426-0381  
**Mail Form and Check to** College of Diplomates  
P.O. Box 4769  
East Lansing, MI 48826-4769

**Make Checks Payable to** College of Diplomates of the American Board of Endodontics

**Credit Card Payment**  
- [ ] Visa  
- [ ] MasterCard  
- [ ] Discover  
- [ ] American Express

**NAME ON CARD**  
**SIGNATURE**

**NUMBER**  
**EXP DATE (mm/yr)**  
**CARD SECURITY CODE (CSC)**

**For further information**  
**Email** codabe96@comcast.net  
**Call** 630/510-7136

**Cancellation Policy**: Received before December 18, 2015: full refund less $100 administrative fee. After December 18, 2015, no refund.