Dear Colleagues,

I am honored to serve as President of the College of Diplomates for 2017–2018. Over the past year, the College has made great strides in fulfilling its mission and I am proud to say, is strong and sound because of the support of all of its members. I cannot stress the importance of maintaining your membership in the College, attending all of its functions whenever possible, and encouraging those individuals not yet Board Certified to become Diplomates and members of the College.

While we communicate closely with the American Board of Endodontics and support their efforts as the examining and certifying board, the College of Diplomates is a separate and distinct organization that must, for obvious reasons, maintain a notable “arm’s length” from the ABE. In fulfilling our mission and purpose, everything the College does revolves around three core principles: 1) promoting Diplomate status to those not yet boarded; 2) encouraging and mentoring Board-Eligible Candidates on their journey toward becoming a Diplomate; and 3) celebrating and acknowledging newly Boarded and existing Diplomates on their accomplishments.

We fulfill these principles in several ways. Every year in the winter, the COD puts on a world-class Board Review Course and Scientific Update that has become an important part of the study and preparation process for Candidates. It also serves as an effective study for those required to recertify and those simply looking for CE credits (20 in two-and-a-half days!). The course, held at a different location each year, has gained in popularity and continues to improve each and every year.

Lastly, the College wants to promote Board Certification by applauding those who have achieved this accomplishment. This is done in two ways. For the new Diplomates receiving their pins, we sponsor the College of Diplomates Reception that immediately follows the pinning ceremony. New Diplomates, along with their family, friends, mentors and colleagues enjoy a time to gather and celebrate and recognize that serves to reunite Diplomates, families and friends to celebrate and recognize that achievement.

For all Diplomates, the College holds an Annual Board Review Course. In fact, the last course was held at Virginia Commonwealth University with more than 165 in attendance—a record. Next year’s course, Feb. 16–18, 2018, will be hosted by the University of Texas at San Antonio and is sure to be a huge success; more details are available in this issue.

Second, our mentorship program, led by Dr. Priya Chand, has been very effective in helping Candidates navigate the various aspects of becoming Board Certified. Each year, many Candidates positively comment on the impact that the mentorship program had on their journey through the process. While there is no guarantee that an applicant who is mentored will pass the Boards. New Diplomate feedback indicates the extra encouragement, support and guidance has been invaluable and continues to improve each and every year.

President’s Message

By Dr. Kirk Coury
President, College of Diplomates of the American Board of Endodontics

July 2017

The Pinnacle

Drs. Frick and Chopra Join the Board

continued from page 2

For the next three years, she practiced general dentistry in New York City. She then went on to complete an endodontic residency in 2008 at Nova Southeastern University. Immediately after graduation, she started her own endodontic practice in Charlotte, N.C. Dr. Chopra became a Diplomate in 2014.

Dr. Chopra is extremely active in her dental community and often lectures on important endodontic topics. She is a specialist member of several study clubs in her community and often lectures on important endodontic topics. She is a specialist member of several study clubs in her community and often lectures on important endodontic topics. She is a specialist member of several study clubs in her community and often lectures on important endodontic topics. She is a specialist member of several study clubs in her community and often lectures on important endodontic topics. She is a specialist member of several study clubs in her community and often lectures on important endodontic topics. She is a specialist member of several study clubs in her community and often lectures on important endodontic topics. She is a specialist member of several study clubs in her community and often lectures on important endodontic topics.
President’s Message

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Dr. Ken Frick

Do more than is required. What is the distance between someone who achieves their goals consistently and those who spend their lives and careers merely following? The extra mile.

—Gary Ryan Blair

Dr. Sonia Chopra

Thank You Dr. Namerow!

Dr. Ken Namerow served as President of the COD Board for 2016-2017. His term ended at the Annual Meeting this past April where he was recognized for his service. Dr. Namerow was instrumental in organizing the last Summer Conference at Kansas City. There is no greater joy, he says, than to see your training with Dr. Walia at Marquette University in 1997, after successful completion of that journey, which is what the College of Diplomates is all about. Dr. Frick completed his endodontic training with Dr. Walia at Marquette University in 1997, after having graduated from dental school in Kansas City in 1986. After dental school, he spent three years in the USAF and six years in private general practice. In Scottsdale, AZ, he started his own private endodontic practice in 1999, and worked for it 13 years before going full time into education. While in Arizona, he was active in local and state organized dentistry, and now, in academics, is busy with AAE committees and the challenges of being a Program Director at the University of Missouri-Kansas City. There is no greater joy, he says, than to see your residents successfully challenge the Board Certification process. As a Director of the College of Diplomates, he gets the chance to be a part of many other’s journey as well, as they make the commitment to be Board Certified.

Dr. Sonia Chopra is originally from upstate New York. She completed her dental school education at the University of Maryland in 2003. In 2004, she completed a General Practice Residency at the Long Island College Hospital in Brooklyn, N.Y.

What was it That Happened at the General Assembly in New Orleans?

By Dr. Ken Frick

I

You are like me, you may have been a little confused by the proceedings during the General Assembly at AAE17 New Orleans. An attempt was made to have a vote by the members present at the Assembly for a change to the bylaws. The goal was to remove the requirement of ADA membership for the AAE members. This is a major change within the association, and a contentious one at that!

If you were not present for this meeting, it is unfortunate, in that you missed an excellent opportunity to experience the process of parliamentary procedure. We are fortunate to have thoughtful and informed leaders in our association, such as Drs. Garry Meyers, Linda Levin, Chip Simon and Rob Roda, to name just a few (I kept going, the list would be longer than this article!). After several procedural votes on how to proceed were nearly 50/50, a motion was made by Dr. Simon to table the bylaws change vote “definitely” to next year’s General Assembly. The intent was that this would allow the membership more time to review the pros and cons of the issue before making their final decision. Then Dr. Roda took the microphone and made a motion to have the Board assign the Membership Services Committee to create a Level 4 Knowledge-Based Governance paper, which would provide a thorough analysis and options on this decision.

Wow, a pretty cool and impressive process—open and transparent.

Now for the debate. What will your vote be next year? For many, like me, this is an important issue for endodontics in general. I am personally for maintaining the requirement. We as a specialty need to preserve our place at the table at the ADA, general. I am personally for maintaining the requirement. We as a specialty need to preserve our place at the table at the ADA, and have local endodontists active at each of the tripartite levels. My concern is that fewer endodontists would become involved in organized dentistry if the requirement were removed. As a previous member of the Membership Services Committee, the number of AAE members not currently ADA members was always very small (single-digit percentages), and many of those would renew once the reminder letter was sent. I am aware of the issue with our International members, but this could easily be modified, in my opinion.

So, I challenge you, current and future members of the College of Diplomates, to do your homework, decide where you stand on the issue and vote next year!

Reflections From Canada

By Dr. Raphael Garofalo

Life has changed, everywhere and for everyone. Things are bigger, faster and more impressive now. Everything from our TV’s to our favorite athletes. We do more things in less time, and often at the same time. Our dental conferences are no exception. The AAE Annual Session is now a big-time show with lots of people, lectures and other activities. But also lots of rushing, fatigue, and unnecessary background noise.

Canadian endodontists like myself get to enjoy what the AAE session and other large conventions have to offer, but they also have the opportunity to slow it down at our national convention hosted by the Canadian Academy of Endodontics. I know several endodontists in the U.S. who attend the CAE annual session without fail every year. They love the smaller group, the intimacy and familiarity of the event, and the single-track lecture schedule. They remember the days when the AAE Annual Session was a smaller and simpler affair and long for that “old school” feel.

You are all welcome up here in Canada any time and as often as you like. But what too many endodontists in the U.S. don’t realize is that they have their own “old school” dental organization with the College of Diplomates. The COD Summer Conferences are cutting-edge CE events that provide the cozy, personalized and relaxed setting that dentists are increasingly lacking in their professional lives. Last year’s Summer Conference at Chateau Elan just outside of Atlanta was a truly unique experience. The only other dental conference that has come close to being as memorable was the COD Summer Conference held in Sonoma in 2012. The COD allows Diplomates to network, socialize and learn in a very Canadian way. That’s why I am a member, as well as a Director (the first Canadian Director, no less). So do yourselves a favor and come hang out at the COD’s next event. Maybe we can even organize a Canada vs. USA Diplomate hockey tournament!

Treasurer’s Report as of May 31, 2017

Beginning Balance $189,207.27
Deposits/Credits $ 10,700.00
Check/WithDr.Carv. $ 3,006.00
Ending Balance $196,907.21

Respectfully Submitted,
Colleen Shull, D.M.D.
Mentoring Update
By Dr. Priya S. Chand

Midway through 2017, we reflect upon a steady progression in our mentoring efforts over the past five years. So much has changed in the mentoring process, with valuable information being continuously added, enriching the resources made available to Candidates, as they work toward the pursuit of their Board Certification. The diligent work of many endodontists in putting together various study aids has grown by leaps and bounds, offering a wealth of information to facilitate mentoring to be better and more effective. Indeed, our model works, and we continue to receive positive feedback, as well as ways increase our impact in future years.

Dr. Alan Law’s conference call takes place twice a year and provides an important synopsis to the Candidates of the Oral Exam process. A recording of the conference call is also made available on the website to reach those Candidates who may have missed it.

We hope each resource continues to encourage and inspire each and every Candidate toward the realization of their Board Certification goals.

Executive Secretary Changes
By Dr. Jan O’Dell

Yes, change is everywhere—in fact it is one of only a few things I can think of that is inevitable. Just as Dr. Raphael Garofalo points out later in this issue, our profession is changing, probably at a pace many of us would like to slow down. We so often look at change with sadness or anxiety—especially when the change is sudden or unexpected such as the loss of a loved one. But change is also positive—it keeps us interested and motivated. I see it when we celebrate the new Diplomates and when we welcome new Board members.

So it was no surprise when several years ago a decision was made to hire Stacy Bogard as our Executive Secretary, that it was met with a spectrum of emotions. Her bio was exemplary and her knowledge of the AAE comforting. Stacy made the transition seemingly without a hitch. With her insight and her innate ability to delicately negotiate stormy waters, be it a meeting or a discussion on a particular policy or a difference in perspective among peers, she would always listen thoughtfully and then contribute her ideas. Her attention to detail, organizational skills and her constant willingness to go the extra mile to tackle any project has made her a trusted and valuable asset to the College.

As we continue to grow, we as mentors wish to take this opportunity to thank the Candidates! They continue to challenge our coverage areas to the West Coast, as well as internationally. As we continue to grow, we as mentors wish to take this opportunity to thank the Candidates! They continue to challenge us to improve and update our resources and our ways of mentoring to be better and more effective.

We hope each resource continues to encourage and inspire each and every Candidate toward the realization of their Board Certification goals.

Some of the highlights from the updated study aids include:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Published</th>
<th>ABE Exam Category</th>
<th>Resource</th>
<th>Contributor</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>Oral</td>
<td>• Written Exam Study Guide</td>
<td>Drs. Andre Mickel &amp; Navid Khaljfipour</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Comprehensive Study Guide for Oral Exam</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Regenerative Endodontics Study Guide</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Systematic Review Compilation of Topics in Endodontics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>Oral</td>
<td>• ABE Index Card Literature Guide for the Oral Exam</td>
<td>Dr. Matt Detar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>Oral &amp; Case Portfolio</td>
<td>• Previous Conference Call Discussions</td>
<td>Dr. Keith Kreul</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Outcome study, ABE part 1, Part 2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td></td>
<td>• U.N.C. Endo Lit Summary</td>
<td>Dr. Peter Z. Tawi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008–2011</td>
<td>Written &amp; Oral</td>
<td>• Board Review Materials (password protected, please see details below)</td>
<td>Dr. Lester Quan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>It is recommended that you download and READ the contents of “Notes Regarding the Resource Doc” (password protected, please see details below), FIRST to familiarize yourself with all of the contents to be downloaded. Also, see the note (February 2018) “Practice Oral Exams” in the “ABE Part 3 Oral Exam” section.</td>
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2018 Board Review Course Scheduled for San Antonio
By Dr. Alan Law

The College of Diplomates, in partnership with the University of Texas Health, San Antonio, is excited to host the 2018 Board Review Course and Scientific Update in Texas. As in years past, this course will have a line-up of endodontic experts to present essential information for an evidence-based practice. In total, there will be 20 hours of continuing education, for the most comprehensive board review course offered. The list of topics and speakers follow, we look forward to seeing you there!

Highlights From 2017 Board Review Course and Scientific Update
February 10–12, 2017
Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond

“Really great program for review of current ideas in endo. Excellent 20 CE [hours] in short time.”
—2017 Attendee
The College of Diplomates and University of Texas San Antonio

Annual Board Review and Scientific Update
February 16 – 18, 2018 at San Antonio, Texas

Not Just for Candidates
Course Open to all Endodontists and Diplomates

Topics and speakers will be announced soon on the COD website

Earn 20 CE Credits in 2½ days!
In partnership with UT Health San Antonio School of Dentistry

More info available soon at www.collegeofdiplomates.org

Save the Dates for the . . .

8th Annual Board Review Course and Scientific Update
February 16 – 18, 2018
San Antonio, Texas

The most comprehensive prep course for the ABE examinations & a scientific update on endodontics from world-renowned experts

Not Just for Candidates — Course Open to all Endodontists and Diplomates
Topics and speakers will be announced soon on the COD website

Full Name and Designations
Preferred Name on Nametag
Street Address
City State Zip/Postal Code Country (outside the U.S.)
Phone Email

REGISTRATION RATES (circle your rate) (By January 10) Rate

COD Member $700 $800
Endodontist or General Dentist $800 $900
Resident or PostGrad Student $400 $500
Retired/Disabled $400 $500
Military (Active Duty) $500 $600
Full-Time Faculty $500 $600
Recent Endo Grad (within last 2 years) $400 $500

Total
Cancellation Policy: Received before January 19, 2018 less $100 administrative fee.
After January 19, 2018, no refund.

REQUIRED RESPONSES:
I plan to attend the Wine and Cheese Reception on Friday. □ Yes □ No
Do you have any dietary restrictions? If so, please list them here: __________________________________________

MAIL: College of Diplomates, 24607 Whispering Wheat Ln, Cary, IL 60013
FAX: 888/426-0381 or 630/517-5964
MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: College of Diplomates of the ABE
CREDIT CARD PAYMENT: □ Visa □ Mastercard □ Discover □ American Express

Please be sure to bring a laptop or tablet with you to view the handouts.

Photo credit: Jim Nix / Nomadic Pursuits via Foter.com / CC BY-NC-SA