Hope you all are having a great Fall! The Board has been busy through the summer, as our specialty continues to grow after a period of staying steady. Our current active membership is a 171 strong! Not including our 57 life members. We are a young specialty once again, with a widening global presence. We added 46 new diplomates in the last 5 years (i.e., 27% of our membership). We now have Diplomates residing in India, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and the UK.

The new Director-elect is Col. Georgia Rogers, DMD, MPH who was elected in March. Dr. Rogers is Consultant to the Surgeon General for Dental Public Health, and began her director-elect duties in April at the NOHC in Albuquerque, New Mexico. At this same meeting, during the annual Diplomates’ dinner and meeting, 8 new Diplomates were inducted into the specialty.

In April 2017, the Board of Directors examined 12 applicants for the full examination, and 23 candidates took the written only. The numbers of candidates taking the examination continue to increase, and we expect this trend to continue.

Finally, on June 9th, 2017 the ADA and CDEL hosted a meeting of the Specialty Boards and the Sponsoring Organizations to discuss the draft bylaws and structure of the proposed National Commission on Specialty Recognition at the ADA in Chicago. This new Commission will be tasked with recognizing new specialties in Dentistry. ABDPH and AAPHD provided detailed input. ADA resolution 33 was approved by the House of Delegates at the Annual Meeting this October in Atlanta.

Happy holidays to you and your families,

Ana Karina Mascarenhas
**The XD Corner**

You have received an invitation from AAPHD to complete your 2018 registration. The ABDPH approved a new set of fees at our annual business meeting. This year, the regular registration fee is $250 with two voluntary fees at $300 and $350. Annual registration fees constitute almost two-thirds of our budget. We hope you complete your registration before the end of the year and joint simultaneously join the AAPHD, our sponsoring organization.

You can pay by credit card or check to AAPHD. If you have problems please do not hesitate to contact me or Sandi Steil.

The ABDPH has completed the evaluation of eligibility for the 2018 full examination and is evaluating applications for the written-only examination which closed on December 1.

Please, send an email if you have any suggestion, comment, or have a photo of Diplomates in action you want to share.

As always.

Eugenio

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**ABDPH hosted Dental Specialty Boards Meeting and Dinner**

ABDPH President Ana Karina Mascarenhas and Vice President John Warren hosted the annual meeting and dinner of the 9 dental specialty boards on August 2 and 3 in Chicago. A get-acquainted dinner was held on August 2 at Ditka’s Restaurant and the food and conversation were well-received by those attending (although Coach Ditka did not make an appearance). The meeting on August 3 allowed officers, executive directors and staff from the specialty boards to discuss common challenges and solutions in certifying dental specialists including test development, testing procedures, analyses of examination data and pass rates. Attendees also discussed issues related to recertification, collection of annual registration, management of their organizations, and a variety of other issues. Drs. Warren and Mascarenhas noted that the larger specialties operate on a different scale than ABDPH, all of the specialty boards face similar problems and the meeting was valuable in learning about the different boards’ approaches to these problems. Near the end of the meeting, representatives from the ADA’s Council for Dental Education and Licensure (CDEL), made a presentation on the proposed new National Commission on Specialty and Specialty Certifying Board Recognition, which resulted in many questions and comments from the specialty boards.

**Director Elect: Never to early to apply**

We are starting the process of selecting the next Director Elect for next year. If you are interested in self-nominating, please contact the Executive Director. As you may recall, the selection is by a general vote of ABDPH Diplomates which will be held in March 2018.

**Honorary Diplomate**

The ABDPH is accepting nominations for Honorary Diplomate Status. The Board may grant honorary certification to individuals who do not possess all of the educational and practice limiting requirements to be eligible for specialty examination, but who have demonstrated unusual capability in related areas and have
made outstanding contributions to dental public health.
Nominations should include:
* A letter of nomination from an active Diplomate of the ABDPH indicating how the
individual meets the criteria and why the nominee will most likely never meet board specialty
eligibility criteria, and
* A current curriculum vitae of the nominee.
All nominations will be reviewed by the ABDPH Nominating Committee.

Nominations due to the Dr. Eugenio Beltran, Executive Director (theabdph@icloud.com) no later than
February 1, 2018.

The CEU Requirement for Recertification has changed
At the 2016 Business Meeting the ABDPH approved to increase the number of Continuing Education
Units (CEUs) to 150 in the ten-year period for recertification. We already have applied this criteria to
Diplomates going for recertification in 2017. This increase is a reflection of our commitment to keep
our Diplomates abreast of the biological, social, and public health evidence supporting our work on
keeping our communities at optimum levels of oral health.

Voluntary recertification is easy and free!
For Diplomates certified in 2000 and later, recertification every ten years is required. For
Diplomates certified before 2000, the voluntary process for recertification is analogous to
recredentialing at a hospital or relicensure in many states. Benefits of recertification are
demonstration to yourself, your peers, and your employer of currency in the practice of Dental
Public Health. Currently, the requirement requires 150 hours of Dental Public Health CE over a
ten year period. There is no fee for voluntary recertification. If you are interested, please contact
the Executive Director (TheABDPH@icloud.com).

Welcome new Diplomates!
The following colleagues completed their examinations and are current Diplomates of the ABDPH. They
will receive the pins that identify them as members of our great family at the meeting in Louisville,
Kentucky.

Lubna AlNasser
Sohini Dhar
Nora Obaban-Udoh
Gina Thornton-Evans
Cunge Ellen Zheng
Eman Behbehani
Nadia Laniado
Claudia Serna
Marjorie L. Write
Photographic Gallery

New Diplomates recognized at our 67th Annual Diplomates Meeting and Dinner in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

New Diplomate Dr. Kavita Alhuwalia and Dr. Jones (left).

New Diplomate Dr. Ariel Greenblat-Port impersonated by Dr. Badner and Dr. Jones (right)

New Diplomate Lt. Col. Scott Irving with Drs. Tavares and Jones (left)

New Diplomate Dr. Ismael Jolaoso and Dr. Jones (right)

New Diplomate Dr. Go Matsuo with Drs. Horowitz and White (left)

New Diplomate Dr. Alejandra Valencia and Dr. Warren (right)

New Diplomate Dr. Darien Weatherspoon with Drs. Evans and Jones
ABDPH Diplomates in the Washington DC area welcome Darien Weatherspoon, February 21, 2017

From left to right:
Alice Horowitz, Darien Weatherspoon, Linda Kaste, Renee Joskow, Bill Maas, Dushanka Kleinman, Maria Rosa Watson, Mark Macek, Steve Corbin, & Phil Swango